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(54) Title: HUMAN BRAIN T CALCIUM CHANNEL ALPHA-SUBUNIT SPLICE VARIANTS

(54) Titre: VARIANTS EPISSES DE LA SOUS-UNITE ALPHA DES CANAUX CALCIUM T DANS LE CERVEAU HUMAIN

(57) Abstract

The structures of CACNA1G and CACNA1I, the genes encoding the human brain T Ca2+¿ channel 'alpha'¿1G and 'alpha'¿1I subunits, respectively, were determined by comparison of polymerase chain reaction-amplified brain cDNA and genomic sequences. CACNA1G consists of at least 38 exons spanning at least 66,490 basepairs of chromosome 17q22. Alternative splicing of the RNA occurs at six sites: cassette exons 14, 26, 34 and 35, an internal donor in exon 25 and protein-coding intron 38B. Additionally, the RNA can be polyadenylated at either of two sites. Alternative splicing of CANCA1G RNA may lead to expression of as many as 64 distinct protein products, ranging from 2,171 to 2,377 amino-acids residues, with as many as 45 potential phosphorylation sites. CACNA1I consists of at least 37 exons spanning at least 116,390 basepairs of chromosome 22q12.3-13.2. Alternative splicing of the gene occurs at three sites: cassette exon 9, an alternative acceptor in exon 33 and mutually-exclusive 3' exons 36B and 37. Alternative splicing of CANCA1I RNA may lead to expression of as many as 8 distinct protein products, ranging from 1,968 to 2, 223 amino-acids residues, with as many as 28 potential phosphorylation sites. Molecular diversity generated by alternative splicing and post-translation modification of these and other members of the T 'alpha'¿1 subunit gene family may account for the observed heterogeneity of T currents in central neurons.

(57) Abrégé

Dans cette invention on a déterminé les structures de CACNA1G et de CACNA1I, gènes codant les sous-unités 'alpha'¿1G et 'alpha'¿1I, respectivement, du canal T Ca2+¿ dans le cerveau humain, en comparant des ADNc du cerveau amplifiés par PCR et des séquences génomiques. CACNA1G est constitué d'au moins 38 exons recouvrant au moins 66 490 paires de base du chromosome 17q22. L'épissage alternatif de l'ARN a lieu dans six sites: exons de cassette 14, 26, 34 et 35, donneur interne dans l'exon 25 et intron 38B codant des protéines. En outre, l'ARN peut être polyadénylé dans n'importe lequel de ces deux sites. L'épissage alternatif d'ARN CACNA1G peut mener à l'expression de jusqu'à 64 produits protéiques distincts, compris entre les résidus d'acides aminés 2171 et 2377, avec jusqu'à 45 sites potentiels de phosphorylation. CACNA1I consiste d'au moins 37 exons recouvrant au moins 116 390 paires de base du chromosome 22q12.3-13.2. L'épissage alternatif de l'ARN a lieu dans trois sites: exon de cassette 9, accepteur alternatif dans l'exon 33 et introns 36B et 37 de 3' s'excluant mutuellement. L'épissage alternatif d'ARN CACNA1I peut mener à l'expression de jusqu'à 8 produits protéiques distincts, compris entre les résidus d'acides aminés 1968 et 2223, avec jusqu'à 38 sites potentiels de phosphorylation. La diversité moléculaire, générée par l'épissage alternatif et la modification post-traductionnelle de ces membres et d'autres membres de la famille de gènes de sous-unité 'alpha'¿1G de T, peut refléter l'hétérogénéité observée des courants T dans les neurones centraux.

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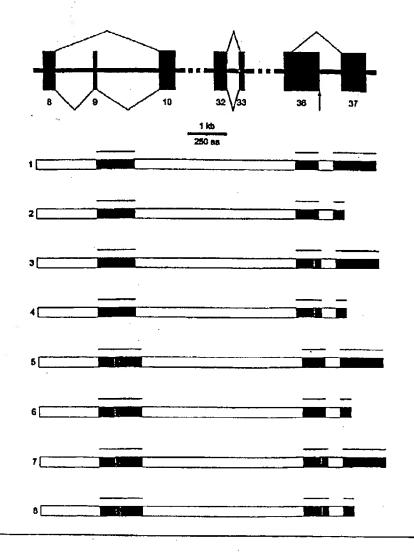
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(54) Title: HUMAN BRAIN T CALCIUM CHANNEL ALPHA-SUBUNIT SPLICE VARIANTS

(57) Abstract

The structures of CACNAIG and CACNAII, the genes encoding the human brain T Ca²⁺ channel α_{1G} and α_{1I} subunits, respectively, were determined by comparison of polymerase chain reaction-amplified brain cDNA and genomic sequences. CACNAIG consists of at least 38 exons spanning at least 66,490 basepairs of chromosome 17q22. Alternative splicing of the RNA occurs at six sites: cassette exons 14, 26, 34 and 35, an internal donor in exon 25 and protein-coding intron 38B. Additionally, the RNA can be polyadenylated at either of two sites. Alternative splicing of CANCAIG RNA may lead to expression of as many as 64 distinct protein products, ranging from 2,171 to 2,377 amino-acids residues, with as many as 45 potential phosphorylation sites. CACNAII consists of at least 37 exons spanning at least 116,390 basepairs of chromosome 22q12.3-13.2. Alternative splicing of the gene occurs at three sites: cassette exon 9, an alternative acceptor in exon 33 and mutually-exclusive 3' exons 36B and 37. Alternative splicing of CANCAII RNA may lead to expression of as many as 8 distinct protein products, ranging from 1,968 to 2,223 amino-acids residues, with as many as 28 potential phosphorylation sites. Molecular diversity generated by alternative splicing and post-translation modification of these and other members of the T α_1 subunit gene family may account for the observed heterogeneity of T currents in central neu-



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Description

HUMAN BRAIN T CALCIUM CHANNEL ALPHA-SUBUNIT SPLICE VARIANTS

This invention was made using funds from the U.S. government. Under the terms of NIH grants K08NS01939 and P50HL52307, the government may retain certain rights in the invention.

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention is related to ion channels. In particular, it is related to ion channels related to brain function.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Voltage-dependent calcium channels are involved in both coupling electrical activity to calcium influx and contributing to membrane properties. Low voltage-activated (LVA) calcium channels activate at potentials near the resting membrane potential. LVA participate in spike-induced calcium entry and allow calcium influx at potentials below threshold. LVA calcium channels also are involved in subthreshold membrane fluctuations. LVA calcium channel dysfunction is implicated in epileptiform activity. Moreover, these channels are targets for antiepileptic drugs.

T-type (transient) properties in neurons include low voltage activation, strongly voltage-dependent kinetics, rapid inactivation, slow deactivation, and small single-channel conductance.

Recently, a subfamily of genes (designated Ca_vT) has been discovered encoding α_i subunits that are ~ 30% homologous to HVA subunit genes in their putative membrane-spanning regions.

T currents are a diverse class of Ca^{2+} current characterized by a low voltage threshold for activation. Proposed functions include generation of low-threshold spikes that lead to bursting, promotion of voltage oscillations, boosting of Ca^{2+} entry and synaptic potentiation. T currents may be the targets of succinimides and related compounds administered in the treatment of absence epilepsy. Recently, cDNA sequences of three T α_1 subunits, rat α_{1G} and α_{1I} and human α_{1H} have been reported.

 Ca^{2+} channel α_1 subunits are encoded by at least 10 genes falling into three subfamilies: ABE, SCDF and GHI¹. Alternative splicing of α_1 RNAs generates further molecular diversity. There is a need in the art for identifying the different splice forms of the calcium channel subunits, so that they can be used as targets in drug discovery and development programs.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide an isolated and purified α_{1G} subunit of human brain T calcium channel.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an isolated and purified nucleic acid encoding the α_{1G} subunit.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an isolated and purified α_{11} subunit of human brain T calcium channel.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an isolated and purified nucleic acid encoding the α_{11} subunit.

It is another object of the present invention to provide an isolated and purified nucleic acid comprising an exon of a human brain T calcium channel alpha subunit.

Another object of the invention is to provide an isolated and purified polypeptide which comprises a translated exon of a human brain T calcium channel.

The gene encoding the subunit α_{1x} , where X is A - I, or S, is denoted CACNAIX. Alternative names for the SCDF and GHI subfamilies are L and T, respectively.

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Another object of the invention is to provide expression vectors and host cells for expressing the subunits of human brain T calcium channel.

Another object of the invention is to provide a method to identify candidate drugs for treating epilepsy.

These and other objects of the invention are achieved by one or more of the embodiments described below. In one embodiment an isolated and purified α_{1G} subunit of human brain T calcium channel is provided. The subunit is selected from splice variants 1-64 as shown in Table 1.

According to another object of the invention an isolated and purified nucleic acid encoding the α_{10} subunit is provided.

According to still another object of the invention an isolated and purified polypeptide is provided which comprises a translated exon selected from the group consisting of 1-38D as shown in Table 2.

Another embodiment of the invention is an isolated and purified nucleic acid which comprises an exon selected from the group consisting of 1-38D as shown in Table 2.

Still another embodiment of the invention is an isolated and purified α_{11} subunit of human brain T calcium channel selected from splice variants 1-8 as shown in Table 3.

The present invention also provides an isolated and purified polypeptide which comprises a translated exon selected from the group consisting of 1-37 as shown in Table 4.

According to another aspect of the invention an isolated and purified nucleic acid is provided which comprises an exon selected from the group consisting of 1-37 as shown in Table 4.

Vectors and host cells which contain and/or express any of the nucleic acids, polypeptides or proteins described above are also contemplated as part of the present invention.

Other embodiments of the invention are methods to identify candidate drugs for treating epilepsy. A host cell containing a nucleic acid encoding an α_{1G} or α_{1I} subunit or exon is contacted with a test substance. Uptake by the cell of calcium ions is measured. A test substance which inhibits the uptake by the cell of calcium ions is identified as a candidate drug for treating epilepsy.

These and other embodiments of the invention which will be described in more detail below, and which will be evident to those of ordinary skill in the art upon reading the disclosure, provide the art with new drug discovery targets which can form the basis of a drug screening program.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1. Map of *CACNAII* and α₁₁ cDNA. In the genomic map (bottom), exons are indicated by vertical bars and introns by the connecting horizontal line. The smallest exons are not to scale due to the minimum line thickness required for printing. In the cDNA map (middle), constitutively-spliced, odd-numbered exons are black and even-numbered exons, gray. Alternatively-processed exons (or portions of exons) are colored as follows: 9 – red, 33A – orange, 36B – green. The thinner portions of exons 1 and 36 represent the 5' and 3' untranslated regions, respectively. Selected exons are labeled to facilitate counting. Black bars above this cDNA map indicate relative PCR product locations. Four of the bars are interrupted by a thin line to indicate portions deleted by alternative splicing. Exon 37 (blue) is mutually exclusive with exon 36, requiring a separate representation of the 3' end of the cDNA, at the top. Only a small portion of the exon 37 3' UTR has been amplified and sequenced. Two of the PCR products containing portions of exon 37 are represented as black bars above the partial cDNA map. The starred scale bar equals 1 kb for PCR products and the cDNA maps and 15 kb for the genomic map.

Fig. 2. Schematic of the predicted α_{11} protein. Each aa residue is represented by a small circle. In the large cytoplasmic and extracellular loops, a full up-down cycle measures 100 residues. Main features of the topology are labeled in large type and described in the text. Portions of the protein derived from odd-numbered exons are labeled in small type. A similarity score was computed for each residue from alignments of the aa sequence of each α_{11} exon with the sequences of the homologous human α_{16} and α_{1H} exons by iterative pairwise use of gap with default parameters. *Pipe, colon, period* and *space* similarity symbols were assigned numerical values of 3, 2, 1 and 0, respectively; α_{11} vs. α_{16} and α_{11} vs. α_{18} scores for an individual α_{11} residue were added to yield a final score of 0 to 6. Residue identity in all three proteins produced a score of 6; pairing of an α_{11} residue with unrelated amino acids in both alignments produced

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a score of 0. Exons 9, 34 and 35 had no apparent α_{IG} or α_{IH} homologues; these residues are uncolored. Exon 16 had only an α_{1H} homologue and exons 33 and 37 had only α_{1G} homologues; the maximum possible similarity score for these exons is 3. Portions of the protein deleted by alternative splicing have a light blue background. Mutually exclusive exons 36B (7 aa) and 37 (214 aa) are side-by-side. Extracellular cysteines, potential N-glycosylation and phosphorylation sites and the location of splice sites (mapped to the protein product) are indicated by the appropriate symbols. Symbol colors have the following meanings: black – conserved among all human α_1 subunits; purple – conserved within 3 as residues in the multiple sequence alignment of all human α_1 subunits; blue – conserved among the human ABE and GHI subfamilies; green - conserved among all human T α_1 subunits; brown – also present in human α_{115} orange – also present in human α_{1G} ; pink – unique to α_{1I} . PKA: cyclic-nucleotide-dependent protein kinase phosphorylation site, PKC: protein kinase C phosphorylation site, CKII: casein kinase II phosphorylation site, Tyr: tyrosine kinase phosphorylation site. One residue in the C-terminus was identified as a potential site for phosphorylation by both PKA and CKII; another was identified as a potential site for phosphorylation by both PKA and PKC.

Fig. 3. Map of CACNA1G and the α_{1G} cDNA. In the genomic map (bottom), exons are indicated by vertical bars and introns by the connecting horizontal line. The smallest exons are not to scale due to the minimum line thickness required for printing. In the cDNA map (middle), constitutively-spliced, odd-numbered exons are gray and even-numbered exons, black. Alternatively-processed exons (or portions of exons) are colored as follows: 14 – olive, 25B – red, 26 – blue, 34 – light green, 35 – orange, 38B – dark green, 38D – purple. The thinner portions of exons 1 and 38 represent the 5' and 3' untranslated regions, respectively. Selected exons are labeled to facilitate counting. Black bars at the top of the figure indicate PCR product locations relative to the cDNA map. Nine of the bars are interrupted by a thin line to indicate portions deleted by alternative splicing. Red bars (labeled with GenBank accession numbers) represent infant brain cDNA clone ESTs. For one clone, only a 3' EST has been reported. Thin lines indicate portions deleted by alternative splicing

and dashed lines indicate unsequenced portions. The starred scale bar equals 1 kb for PCR products and the cDNA map and 10 kb for the genomic map.

Fig. 4. Schematic of predicted α_{1G} proteins. Each az residues is represented by a small circle. In the large cytoplasmic and extracellular loops, a full up-down cycle measures 100 residues. Main features of the topology are labeled in large type and described in the text. Portions of the protein involved in alternative splicing have a blue background. These and portions derived from odd-numbered exons are labeled in small type. A similarity score was computed for each residue from alignments of the aa sequence of each α_{1G} exon with the sequences of the homologous human α_{1H} (unpublished observations) and α_{11} (submitted) exons by iterative pairwise use of gap (Genetics Computer Group, Wisconsin Package Version 9.0) with default parameters. Pipe, colon, period and space similarity symbols were assigned numerical values of 3, 2, 1 and 0, respectively; α_{1G} vs. α_{1H} and α_{1G} vs. α_{1I} scores for an individual α_{1G} residue were added to yield a final score of 0 to 6. Residue identity in all three proteins produced a score of 6; pairing of an $\alpha_{\rm IG}$ residue with unrelated amino acids in both alignments produced a score of 0. Exons 14, 16, 26, 35 and 38 had no apparent α_{1H} or α_{II} homologues; these residues are uncolored. Exon 36 and the C-terminal half of exon 8 had only α_{IH} homologues and exon 34 had only an α_{II} homologue; the maximum possible similarity score for these regions is 3. Splice sites, extracellular cysteines and potential N-glycosylation and phosphorylation sites identified with PROSITE are indicated by the appropriate symbols. Symbol colors have the following meanings: black - conserved among all human α_1 subunits, purple - conserved within 3 az residues in the multiple sequence alignment of all human α_1 subunits, blue – conserved among the human ABE and GHI subfamilies, green – conserved among all human T α_1 subunits, brown – also present in human α_{11} , orange – also present in human α_{11} , pink – unique to α_{10} . PKA: cyclic-nucleotide-dependent protein kinase phosphorylation site, PKC: protein kinase C phosphorylation site, CKII: casein kinase II phosphorylation site, Tyr: tyrosine kinase phosphorylation site. One residue in ID1-2 was identified as a potential site for phosphorylation by both PKA and PKC.

Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram of the RNA processing leading to the 8 α_{II} variants.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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The human brain T calcium channel α_{1G} subunit gene, CACNAIG, has now been discovered to consist of 38 protein-coding exons. Alternative processing of the gene transcript allows this single gene to code for sixty-four distinct α_{1G} protein products. In Table 2, each exon or portion of an exon is listed. In Table 1, the component exons of individual splice variants are described. These two tables are sufficient for a complete description of the newly discovered compositions.

Table 1 lists the component exons of the 64 α_{10} protein products. Only the missing portions of each variant are noted in the description; the symbol " Δ " denotes deletion of the exon following the symbol. Thus, variant 1 consists of all exons save 14, 25B, 26, 34, 35 and 38B; in other words, exons 1 – 13, 15- 24, 25A, 27 – 33, 36 – 37, 38A and 38C are concatenated to form the protein. The final column lists the number of aa residues in each variant.

	Length (aa)	2164	2243	2209	2288	2212	2291	2257	2336
	Exon 38B		+		+	.	+		+
	Exon 35			+	+			+	+
	Exon 34		1			+	+	+	+
	Exon Exon Exon Exon 25B 26 34 35								
	Exon 25B								
	Exon 14] ,	1	1	1	_	1	_	
olice Variants	Description	A14A25BA26A34A35A 38B	A14A25BA26A34A35	A14A25BA26A34A38B	A14A25BA26A34	A14A25BA26A35A38B	A14A25BA26A35	A14A25BA26A38B	A14A25BA26
Table 1. α_{1G} Splice Variants	Variant		2	æ	4	5	9	7	∞ .

2182	2261	2227	2306	2230	2309	2275	2354	2171
	+		+		+		+	1
		+	+			+	+	
				+	+	+	+	
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	1		1				ļ	+
				1	1	1	.	1
A14A25BA34A35A38B	A14A25BA34A35	A14A25BA34A38B	A14A25BA34	A14A25BA35A38B	A14A25BA35	Δ14Δ25BΔ38B	A14A25B	A14A26A34A35A38B
6	10	=	12	13	14	15	16	17

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2250	2216	2295	2219	2298	2264	2343	2189	2268
+		+	1	+		+		+
	+	+.			+	+		
			+	+	+	+		İ
							+	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	1		1				i	1
Δ14Δ26Δ34Δ35	A14A26A34A38B	Δ14Δ26Δ34	A14A26A35A38B	Δ14Δ26Δ35	Δ14Δ26Δ38B	Δ14Δ26	A14A34A35A38B	Δ14Δ34Δ35
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

2234	2313	2237	2316	2282	2361	2187	2266	2232
	+		+		+		+	
+	+		_	+	+	*		+
	1	+	+	+	+			
+	+	+	+	+	+			
+	+	+	+	+	+			
					1	+	+.	+
Δ14Δ34Δ38B	Δ14Δ34	A14A35A38B	Δ14Δ35	A14A38B	Δ14	A25BA26A34A35A38B	A25BA26A34A35	A25BA26A34A38B
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35

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2311	2235	2314	2280	2359	2205	2284	2250	2329
+		+	Ì	+		+		+
+			+	+			+	+
	+	+	+	+				
			1		+	+	+	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
A25BA26A34	A25BA26A35A38B	A25BA26A35	A25BA26A38B	A25BA26	A25BÅ34A35A38B	A25BA34A35	A25BA34A38B	Δ25ΒΔ34
36	37	33 88	39	40	41	42	43	44

					·			
2253	2332	2298	2377	2194	2273	2239	2318	2242
.	+	-	+		+		+	l
	÷	+	+			+	+	
+	+	+	+				1	+
+	+	+	+		1			
				+	+	+	+	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
A25BA35A38B	A25BA35	A25BA38B	A25B	A26A34A35A38B	A26A34A35	A26A34A38B	Δ26Δ34	A26A35A38B
45	46	47 °	48	49	50	51	52	53

2321	2287	2366	2212	2291	2257	2336	2260	2339
+		+		+	_	+ =		+
	+	+			+	+		
+	+	+	-	1			+	+
1		1	+	+	+	+	+	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Δ26Δ35	Δ26Δ38B	Δ26	Δ34Δ35Δ38B	Δ34Δ35	A34A38B	Δ34	A35A38B	Δ35
54	55	56	57	28	59	09	19	62

2305	2384
	+
+	+
+	+
+	+
+	+
+	+
A38B	full
63	64

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For each exon, the nucleotide sequence and the corresponding amino-acid (aa) sequence are listed in single-letter IUPAC code. Lower case letters in the aa sequences indicate that only two nucleotides of the codon belong to the exon (the codon is interrupted). A dash indicates a stop codon.

Table 2.

(SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 82) Exon 1 (constitutive)

 $\label{thm:mode} \mbox{\sc mdeeedgagaeegprsfmrlndl} \mbox{\sc sagarpgpgsaekdpgsadseaeglpypalapvvffylsqds} \\ \mbox{\sc rprswclrtvcnp}$

(SEQ ID NOs: 2 and 83) Exon 2 (constitutive)

ctggtttgagcgcatcagcatgttggtcatccttctcaactgcgtgaccctgggcatgttccggccatgcagaggacatcgcctgtgactcccagcgctgccggatcctgcag

WFERISMLVILLNCVTLGMFRPCEDIACDSQRCRILQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 3 and 84) Exon 3 (constitutive)

 ${\tt gcctttgatgacttcatctttgccttctttgccgtggagatggtggtgaagatggtggccttgggcatcttttgggaaaaagtgttacctgggagacacttggaaccggcttgactttttcatcgtcatcgcagg}$

AFDDFIFAFFAVEMVVKMVALGIFGKKCYLGDTWNRLDFFIVIAG

(SEQ ID NOs: 4 and 85) Exon 4 (constitutive)

gatgctggagtactcgctggacctgcagaacgtcagcttctcagctgtcaggacagtccgtgtgctgcgaccgctcagggccattaaccgggtgcca

MLEYSLDLQNVSFSAVRTVRVLRPLRAINRVP

(SEQ ID NOs: 5 and 86) Exon 5 (constitutive)

gcatgcgcatccttgtcacgttgctgctggatacgctgcccatgctgggcaacgtcctgctgctctgc ttcttcgtcttcttcatcttcggcatcgtcggcgtccagctgtgggcagggctgcttcggaaccgatg cttcctacctgagaatttcagcct

 $\verb"amrilytlldtlpmlgnvlllcffvffifgivgvqlwagllrnrcflpenfsl"$

(SEQ ID NOs: 6 and 87) Exon 6 (constitutive)

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ccccctgagegtggacctggagegctattaccagacagagaacgaggatgagagccccttcatctgct cccagecacgegagaacggcatgeggtcctgcagaagegtgcccacgctgegeggggacgggggggt ggcccaccttgeggtctggactatgaggcctacaacagctccagcaacaccacctgtgtcaactggaa ccagtactacaccaactgctcagegggggagcacaaccccttcaagggegccatcaactttgacaaca ttggctatgcctggatcgccatcttccag

 ${\tt PLSVDLERYYQTENEDESPFICSQPRENGMRSCRSVPTLRGDGGGGPPCGLDYEAYNSSSNTTCVNWN} \\ {\tt QYYTNCSAGEHNPFKGAINFDNIGYAWIAIFQ}$

(SEQ ID NOs: 7 and 88) Exon 7 (constitutive)

gtcatcacgetggagggctgggtcgacatcatgtactttgtgatggatgctcattccttctacaattt catctacttcatcctcctcatcatc

VITLEGWVDIMYFVMDAHSFYNFIYFILLII

(SEQ ID NOs: 8 and 89) Exon 8 (constitutive)

gtgggeteettetteatgateaacetgtgeetggtggtgattgeeacgeagtteteagagaceaagea
gegggaaagceagetgatgegggageagegtgtgeggtteetgteeaacgceagcacectggetaget
tetetgageeeggeagetgetatgaggagetgeteaagtaeetggtgtacateettegtaaggeagee
egeaggetggeteaggtetetegggeageaggtgtgegggttgggetgeteageageeeageaceet
egggggeeaggagaceageeageageagetgetetegeteeaacegeegeetateegteeaceace
tggtgeaceaceaceaceaceaceaceaceaceaceaceacetgggeaatgggaegeteagggeeeceegg
geeageeeggagateeaggacagggatgeeaatgggteeegeaggeteatgetgeeaceacecetegae
geetgeeeteteeggggeeeeeeetggtggegeagagtetgtgeacagettetaceatgeegaetgee
acttagageeagteegetgeeaggegeeeeeteceaggteeceatetgaggeateeggeaggaetgtg
ggeagegggaaggtgtateecaacegtgeacaceageetecaaceggagaegetgaaggaaggeact
agtagaggtggetgeeagetetgggeeeeceaaceeteaceageeteaacateceacegggeeetaca
getecatgeacaagetgetggagacacagagtacag

VGSFFMINLCLVVIATQFSETKQRESQLMREQRVRFLSNASTLASFSEPGSCYEELLKYLVYILRKAA RRLAQVSRAAGVRVGLLSSPAPLGGQETQPSSSCSRSHRRLSVHHLVHHHHHHHHHHHHHLGNGTLRAPR ASPEIQDRDANGSRRLMLPPPSTPALSGAPPGGAESVHSFYHADCHLEPVRCQAPPPRSPSEASGRTV GSGKVYPTVHTSPPPETLKEKALVEVAASSGPPTLTSLNIPPGPYSSMHKLLETQST

(SEQ ID NOs: 9 and 90) Exon 9 (constitutive)

5 gccggcggcaacggagcctgggcccagatgcagagcccagctctgtgctggccttctggaggctaatc tgtgacacettccgaaagattgtggacagcaagtactttggccggggaatcatgatcgccatectggt caacacactcagcatgggcatcgaataccacgagcag qACQSSCKISSPCLKADSGACGPDSCPYCARAGAGEVELADREMPDSDSEAVYEFTQDAQHSDLRDPH 10 SRRQRSLGPDAEPSSVLAFWRLICDTFRKIVDSKYFGRGIMIAILVNTLSMGIEYHEQ (SEQ ID NOs: 10 and 91) Exon 10 (constitutive) ${\tt cccgaggagcttaccaacgccctagaaatcagcaacatcgtcttcaccagcctctttgccctggagat}$ 15 gctgctgaagctgcttgtgtatggtccctttggctacatcaagaatccctacaacatcttcgatggtg tcattgtggtcatcag PEELTNALEISNIVFTSLFALEMLLKLLVYGPFGYIKNPYNIFDGVIVVI8 (SEQ ID NOs: 11 and 92) Exon 11 (constitutive) 20 $\verb|cgtgtgggagatcgtggggcaggcggcctgtcggtgctgcggaccttccgcctgatgcgtg|\\$ $\verb|tgctgaagctggtgcgcttcctgccggcgctgcagctggtggtgctcatgaagaccatggac|$ aacgtggccaccttctgcatgctgcttatgctcttcatcttcatcttcag 25 ${\tt VWEIVGQQGGGLSVLRTFRLMRVLKLVRFLPALQRQLVVLMKTMDNVATFCMLLMLFIFIF a}$ (SEQ ID NOs: 12 and 93) Exon 12 (constitutive) $\verb|catcctgggcatgcatctcttcggctgcaagtttgcctctgagcgggatggggacaccctgccagacc| \\$ 30 ggaagaattttgactccttgctctgggccatcgtcactgtctttcag ILGMHLFGCKFASERDGDTLPDRKNFDSLLWAIVTVFQ (SEQ ID NOs: 13 and 94) Exon 13 (constitutive) 35 atcctgacccaggaggactggaacaaagtcctctacaatggtatggcctccacgtcgtcctgggcggc cctttatttcattgccctcatgaccttcggcaactacgtgctcttcaattttgctggtcgccattctgg tggagggcttccaggcggag ILTQEDWNKVLYNGMASTSSWAALYFIALMTFGNYVLFNLLVAILVEGFQAE 40 (SEQ ID NOs: 14 and 95) Exon 14 (variable) gaaatcagcaaacgggaagatgcgagtggacagttaagctgtattcagctgcctgtcgactcccaggg 45 EISKREDASGQLSCIQLPVDSQG (SEQ ID NOs: 15 and 96) Exon 15 (constitutive) 50

ggagatgecaacaagteegaateagageeegatttetteteaceeageetggatggtgatggggaeag gaagaagtgettggeet

GDANKSESEPDFFSPSLDGDGDRKKCLA

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(SEQ ID NOs: 16 and 97) Exon 16 (constitutive)

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tggtgtccctgggagagcacccggagctgcggaagagcctgctgcgcctctcatcatccacacggcc gccacacccatgtcgctgcccaagagcaccagcacgggcctgggcgaggcgctgggccctgcgtcgcg ccgcaccagcagcagcgggtcggcagagcctggggcggcccacgagatgaagtcaccg

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1VSLGEHPELRKSLLPPLIIHTAATPMSLPKSTSTGLGEALGPASRRTSSSGSAEPGAAHEMKSP

(SEQ ID NOs: 17 and 98) Exon 17 (constitutive)

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cccagcgcccgcagctctccgcacagccctggagcgctgcaagcagctggaccagcagcgctccag ccggaacagcctcggccgtgcacccagcctgaagcggagaagcccaagtggagagcggcggtccctgt tgtcgggagaaggccaggagagccaggatgaagaggagagctcagaagaggagcgggccagccctgcg ggcagtgaccatcgccacagggggtccctggagcgggaggccaagagttcctttgacctgccagacac actgcaggtgccagggctgcatcgcactgccagtggccgagggtctgcttctgagcaccaggactgca atggcaagtcggcttcagggcgcctggcccgggccctgcggcctgatgacccccactggatgggat gacgccgatgacgagggcaacctg

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PSARSSPHSPWSAASSWTSRRSSRNSLGRAPSLKRRSPSGERRSLLSGEGQESQDEEESSEEERASPA GSDHRHRGSLEREAKSSFDLPDTLQVPGLHRTASGRGSASEHQDCNGKSASGRLARALRPDDPPLDGD DADDEGNL

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(SEQ ID NOs: 18 and 99) Exon 18 (constitutive)

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SKGERVRAWIRARLPACCLERDSWSAYIFPPQSr

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(SEQ ID NOs: 19 and 100) Exon 19 (constitutive)
gttccgcctcctgtgtcaccggatcatcacccacaagatgttcgaccacgtggtccttgtcatcatct

teettaactgcatcaccatcgccatggagcgccccaaaattgacccccacagcgct

46

FRLICHRITHKMFDHVVLVIIFLNCITIAMERPKIDPHSA

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(SEQ ID NOs: 20 and 101) Exon 20 (constitutive)

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gaacgcatcttcctgaccctctccaattacatcttcaccgcagtctttctggctgaaatgacagtgaa

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ERIFLTLSNYIFTAVFLAEMTVK

(SEQ ID NOs: 21 and 102) Exon 21 (constitutive)

gtggtggcactgggctggttgcttcggggagcaggcgtacctgcggagcagttggaacgtgctggacgg qctqttqqtqctcatctccqtcatcqacattctqqtqtccatqqtctctqacaqcqqcaccaaqatcc tgggcatgctgagggtgctgcggctgctgcggaccctgcgcccgctcag

VVALGWCFGEQAYLRSSWNVLDGLLVLISVIDILVSMVSDSGTKILGMLRVLRLLRTLRPLT

(SEQ ID NOs: 22 and 103) Exon 22 (constitutive)

ggtgatcagecgggcgcaggggctgaagetggtggtggagacgetgatgtcctcactgaaacccatcg gcaacattgtagtcatctgctgtgccttcttcatcattttcggcatcttgggggtgcag

VISRAQGLKLVVETLMSSLKPIGNIVVICCAFFIIFGILGVQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 23 and 104) Exon 23 (constitutive)

ctcttcaaagggaagtttttcgtgtgccagggcgaggataccaggaacatcaccaataaatcggactg tgccgaggccagttaccggtgggtccggcacaagtacaactttgacaaccttggccag

LFKGKFFVCQGEDTRNITNKSDCAEASYRWVRHKYNFDNLGQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 24 and 105) Exon 24 (constitutive)

gccctgatgtccctgttcgttttggcctccaaggatggttgggtcgtcatcatgtacgatgggctgga tgctgtgggcgtggaccagcag

ALMSLFVLASKDGWVDIHYDGLDAVGVDQQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 25 and 106) Exon 25A (constitutive)

 $\verb|cccatcatgaaccacaacccctggatgctgctgtacttcatctcgttcctgctcattgtggccttctt|$ $\verb|tgtcctgaacatgtttgtgggtggtggtggaaacttccacaagtgtcggcagcaccaggaggaag$ ${\tt aggaggcccggcgggaggagaagcgcctacgaagactggagaaaaaagagaagga}$

PIMNHNPWMLLYFISFLLIVAFFVLNMFVGVVVENFHKCRQHQEEEEARRREEKRLRRLEKKRR

(SEQ ID NOs: 26 and 107) Exon 25B (variable)

gtaaggagaagcagatggctg

BKEKQMA

(SEQ ID NOs: 27 and 108 and 162) Exon 26 (variable)

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nLMLDDVIASGSSASAAS (when follows exon 25A)

dLMLDDVIASGSSASAAS (when follows exon 25B)

(SEQ ID NOs: 28 and 109 and 163) Exon 27 (constitutive)

aagcccagtgcaaaccttactactccgactactcccgcttccggctcctcgtccaccacttgtgcaccagccactacctggacctcttcatcacaggtgtcatcgggctgaacgtggtcaccatggccatggagcactaccagcagccccag

eAQCKPYYSDYSRFRLLVHHLCTSHYLDLFITGVIGLNVVTMAMEHYQQPQ (when it follows exon 25B or exon 26)

kAQCKPYYSDYSRFRLLVHHLCTSHYLDLFITGVIGLNVVTMAMEHYQQPQ (when it follows exon 25A)

(SEO ID NOs: 29 and 110) Exon 28 (constitutive)

attetggatgaggetetgaagatetgeaactacatetteactgteatetttgtettggagteagtttt eaaacttgtggeetttggttteegteggttetteeaggaeag

ILDEALKICNYIFTVIFVLESVFKLVAFGFRRFFQDr

(SEQ ID NOs: 30 and 111) Exon 29 (constitutive)

gtggaaccagctggacctggccattqtgctgctgtccatcatgggcatcacgctggaggaaatcgagg tcaacgcctcgctgcccatcaaccccaccatcatccgcatcatgagggtgctgcgcattgcccgag

WNQLDLAIVLLSIMGITLEEIEVNASLPINPTIIRIMRVLRIAR

(SEQ ID NOs: 31 and 112) Exon 30 (constitutive)

 ${\tt tgctgaagctgctgaagatggctgtgggcatgcgggcgctgctggacacggtgatgcaggccctgccc} \\ {\tt cag}$

vlkllkmavgmralldtvmqalpq

(SEQ ID NOs: 32 and 113) Exon 31 (constitutive)

gtggggaacctgggacttctcttcatgttgttttttcatctttgcagctctgggcgtggagctctt
tggagacctgg

VGNLGLLFMLLFFIFAALGVELFGDL

(SEQ ID NOs: 33 and 114) Exon 32 (constitutive)

 ${\tt agtgtgacgagacacccctgtgagggcctgggccgtcatgccacctttcggaactttggcatggcctttcctaaccctcttccgagtctccacaggtgacaattggaatggcattatgaag}$

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eCDETHPCEGLGRHATFRNFGMAFLTLFRVSTGDNWNGIMK

(SEQ ID NOs: 34 and 115) Exon 33 (constitutive)

gacaccctccgggactgtgaccaggagtccacctgctacaacacggtcatctcgcctatctactttgt gtccttcgtgctgacggcccagttcgtgctagtcaacgtggtgatcgccgtgctgatgaagcacctgg aggagagcaacaaggaggccaaggaggccgagctagaggctgagctggagctggagctggagatgaagaccctacagccccaagcccaactcggcaaccagtggcagccccttcctctggcctggggtcgagggcccaacagcccaaagcctggggctctgcacccaagcgggcccaagggcccaagggagatcagccccacttttcccttggagaccccaagccccaccttttcccttggagaccccaacgcgagaccccaccttttcccttggagaccccaacgcgagaccaccacag

DTLRDCDQESTCYNTVISPIYFVSFVLTAQFVLVNVVIAVLMKHLEESNKEAKEEAELEAELELEMKT LSPQPHSPLGSPFLWPGVEGPDSPDSPKPGALHPAAHARSASHFSLEHPT

(SEQ ID NOs: 35 and 116) Exon 34 (variable)

DRQLFDTISLLIQGSLEWELKLMDELAGPGGQPSAFPSAPSLGGSDPQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 36 and 117) Exon 35 (variable)

IPLAEMEALSLTSEIVSEPSCSLALTDDSLPDDMHTLLLSALESN

(SEQ ID NOs: 37 and 118) Exon 36 (constitutive)

atgcagececacecacggagetgecaggaceagaettactgaetgtgeggaagtetggggteageeg aacgcaetetetgeceaatgacagetacatgtgteggeatgggageactgeegaggggeeeetgggae acaggggetggggggteececaaageteagteag

mophptelpgpdlltvrksgvsrthslpndsymcrhgstaegplghrgwglpkaqs

(SEQ ID NOs: 38 and 119) Exon 37 (constitutive)

gctecgtcttgtccgttcactcccagccagcagataccagctacatcctgcagcttcccaaagatgca cctcatctgctccagccccacagcgccccaacctggggcaccatccccaaactgccccaccaggacg ctcccctttggctcagaggccactcaggcgccag

gsvlsvhsqpadtsyilqlpkdaphllqphsaptwgtipklpppgrsplaqrplrrq

(SEQ ID NOs: 39 and 120) Exon 38A (constitutive)

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gcagoaataaggactgactccttggacgttcagggtctgggcagccgggaagacctgctggcagag AAIRTDSLDVQGLGSREDLLAE

(SEQ ID NOs: 40 and 121) Exon 38B (variable)

gtgagtgggccctccccgccctggcccgggcctactctttctggggccagtcaagtacccaggcaca gcagcactcccgcagccacagcaagatctccaagcacatgaccccgccagccccttgcccaggcccag aacccaactggggcaagggccctccagagaccagaagcagcttagagttggacacggagctgagctgg attteaggagacetectgeceeetggeggeeag

vsgpspplaraysfwgqsstqaqqhsrshskiskhmtppapcpgpepnwgkgppetrssleldtelsw **ISGDLLPPGGQ**

(SEQ ID NOs: 41 and 122) Exon 38C (constitutive)

 $\tt gaggagcccccatccccacgggacctgaagaagtgctacagcgtggaggcccagagctgccagcgccggcctacgtc$ tctatttattaaattaattgaatctagta

EEPPSPRDLKKCYSVEAOSCORRPTSWLDEORRHSIAVSCLDSGSQPHLGTDPSNLGGQPLGGPGSRP KKKLSPPSITIDPPESQGPRTPPSPGICLRRRAPSSDSKDPLASGPPDSMAASPSPKKDVLSLSGLSS DPADLDP-

(SEQ ID NO: 42) Exon 38D (variable)

tatgcgggatgtacgacattttgtgactgaagagacttgtttccttctacttttatgtgtctcagaat atttttqaqqcqaaqqcqtctqtctcttqqctattttaacctaaaataacaqtctaqttatattccct cttcttgcaaagcacaagctgggaccgcgagcacattgcagccccaacggtggcccatcttcagcgga $\tt gagegagaaccatttttggaaactgtaatgtaacttatttttttctttaacctcgtcatcattttctgt$

Non-coding

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The calcium channel α_{II} subunit gene, CACNAII, consists of 37 protein-coding exons. Alternative processing of the gene transcript allows this single gene to code for eight distinct α_{11} protein products. In Table 4, each exon or portion of an exon is listed. In Table 3, the component exons of individual splice variants is described. These two tables are sufficient for a complete description of composition. The presumed RNA processing mechanisms giving rise to these variants are discussed below.

Table 3 lists the composition of the 8 α_{11} protein products. Only the missing portions of each variant are noted in the description; the symbol " Δ " denotes deletion of the exon following the symbol. Thus, variant 1 consists of all exons save 9, 33A and 36B; in other words, exons 1-8, 10-32, 33B, 34-35, 36A and 37 are concatenated to form the protein. The final column lists the number of aa residues in each variant.

Table 3. α_{11} Splice Variants

Variant	Description	Exon 9	Ехоп 33А	Exon 36B or 37	Length (aa)
1	∆9∆33А∆36В	Δ	Δ	37	2175
2	Δ9Δ33ΑΔ37	Δ	Δ	36B	1968
3	Δ9Δ36В	Δ	+	37	2188
4	Δ9Δ37	Δ	+	36B	1981
.5	Δ33ΑΔ36В	+	Δ	37	2210
6	Δ33ΑΔ37	+	Δ	36B	2003
7	Δ36B	+	+	37	2223
8	Δ37	+	+	36B	2016

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For each exon, the nucleotide sequence and the corresponding amino-acid (aa) sequence are listed in single-letter IUPAC code. Lower case letters in the aa sequences indicate that only two nucleotides of the codon belong to the exon (the codon is interrupted). A dash indicates a stop codon.

TABLE 4

(SEQ ID NOs: 43 and 123) Exon 1 (constitutive)

MAESASPPSSSAAAPAAEPGVTTEQPGPRSPPSSPPGLEEPLDGADPHVPHPDLAPIAFFCLRQTTSP RNWCIKMVCNp

(SEQ ID NOs: 44 and 124) Exon 2 (constitutive)

gtggtttgaatgtgtcagcatgctggtgatcctgctgaactgcgtgacacttggcatgtaccagccgtgcacgacgacatggactgcctgtccgaccgctgcaagatcctgcag

WFECVSMLVILLNCVTLGMYQPCDDMDCLSDRCKILQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 45 and 125) Exon 3 (constitutive)

gtetttgatgaetteatetttatettetttgeeatggagatggtgeteaagatggtggeeetggggat ttttggeaagaagtgetaeeteggggaeaeatggaaeegeetggatttetteategteatggeagg

VFDDFIFIFFAMEMVLKMVALGIFGKKCYLGDTWNRLDFFIVMAG

(SEQ ID NOs: 46 and 126) Exon 4 (constitutive)

gatggtcgagtactccctggaccttcagaacatcaacctgtcagccatccgcaccgtgcgcgtcctga ggcccctcaaagccatcaaccgcgtgccca

MVEYSLDLQNINLSAIRTVRVLRPLKAINRVP

(SEQ ID NOs: 47 and 127) Exon 5 (constitutive)

SMRILVNLLLDTLPMLGNVLLLCFFVFFIFGIIGVQLWAGLLRNRCFLEENFTi

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(SEQ ID NOs: 48 and 128) Exon 6 (constitutive)

acaaggggatgtggccttgccccatactaccagccggaggaggatgatgatgagatgcccttcatctgct ccctgtcgggcgacaatgggataatgggctgccatgagatccccccgctcaaggagcagggccgtgag tgctgcctgtccaaggacgacgtctacgactttggggcggggggcgccaggacctcaatgccagcggcct ctgtgtcaactggaaccgttactacaatgtgtgccgcacgggcagcgccaacccccacaagggtgcca tcaactttgacaacatcggttatgcttggattgtcatcttccag

QGDVALPPYYQPEEDDEMPFICSLSGDNGIMGCHEIPPLKEQGRECCLSKDDVYDFGAGRQDLNASGL CVNWNRYYNVCRTGSANPHKGAINFDNIGYAWIVIFQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 49 and 129) Exon 7 (constitutive)

VITLEGWVEIMYYVMDAHSFYNFIYFILLII

(SEQ ID NOs: 50 and 130) Exon 8 (constitutive)

gtgggeteettetteatgateaacetgtgeetegttgteatagegaeecagtteteggagaeeaagea aegggageaeeggetgatgetggageageggeagegetaeetgteeteeageaeggtggeeagetaeg eegageetggegaetgetaeggagagatetteeagtatgtetgeeacateetgegeaaggeeaagegeeggeeetgggeeetgggeeetggageeeeggeeee egeeaaacetgggeeeaaggeeeaaggeeeeggeaetaee egeeaaacetgggeeecaaggeeeaaggeeeeggeaetaee

VGSFFMINLCLVVIATQFSETKQREHRLMLEQRQRYLSSSTVASYAEPGDCYEEIFQYVCHILRKAKR RALGLYOALOSRRQALGPEAPAPAKPGPHAKEPRHY

(SEQ ID NOs: 51 and 131) Exon 9 (variable)

atgggaagactaagggtcagggagatgaagggagacatctcggaagccggcattgccagactttgcat gggcctgcctcccctggaaatgatcactcgggaagag

hgktkgqgdegrhlgsrhcqtlhgpaspgndhsgr

(SEQ ID NOs: 52 and 132 and 164) Exon 10 (constitutive)

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eLCPQHSPLDATPHTLVQPIPATLASDPASCPCCQHEDGRRPSGLGSTDSGQEGSGSSSAGGEDEAD GDGARSSEDGASSELGKEEEEEEQADGAVWLCGDVWRETRAKLRGIVDSKYFNRGIMMAILVNTVSMG IEHHEQ (when it follows exon 9)

qLCPQHSPLDATPHTLVQPIPATLASDPASCPCCQHEDGRRPSGLGSTDSGQEGSGSSSAGGEDEAD GDGARSSEDGASSELGKEEEEEEQADGAVWLCGDVWRETRAKLRGIVDSKYFNRGIMMAILVNTVSMG IEHHEQ (when if follows exon 8)

(SEQ ID NOs: 53 and 133) Exon 11 (constitutive)

ccggaggagetgaccaacatcctggagatctgcaatgtggtcttcaccagcatgtttgccctggagat gatcctgaagctggctgcatttgggctcttcgactacctgcgtaacccctacaacatcttcgacagca tcattgtcatcatcag

PEELTNILEICNVVFTSMFALEMILKLAAFGLFDYLRNPYNIFDSIIVIIB

(SEQ ID NOs: 54 and 134) Exon 12 (constitutive)

IWEIVGQADGGLSVLRTFRLLRVLKLVRFMPALRRQLVVLMKTMDNVATFCMLLMLFIFIFB

(SEQ ID NOs: 55 and 135) Exon 13 (constitutive)

catcettgggatgcatatttttggctgcaagttcagcetccgcacggacactggagacacggtgcccg acaggaagaacttcgactccctgctgtgggccatcgtcactgtgttccag

ILGMHIFGCKFSLRTDTGDTVPDRKNFDSLLWAIVTVFQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 56 and 136) Exon 14 (constitutive)

ILTQEDWNVVLYNGMASTSPWASLYFVALMTFGNYVLFNLLVAILVEGFQAE

(SEQ ID NOs: 57 and 137) Exon 15 (constitutive)

ggtgacgccaatcgctcctactcggacgaggaccagagctcatccaacatagaagagtttgataagctccaggaaggcctggacagcagcggag

GDANRSYSDEDQSSSNIEEFDKLQEGLDSSG

(SEQ ID NOs: 58 and 138) Exon 16 (constitutive)

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ateccaagetetgeceaatecceatgaceeecaatggeacetggaceccagteteecactgggtggg cacctaggtcctgctggggctgcgggacctgcccccgactctcactgcagccggaccccatgctggt ggccctgggctcccgaaagagcagtgtcatgtctctagggaggatgagctatgaccagcgctccctg

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dpklcpipmtpnghldpslplgghlgpagaagpaprlslqpdpmlvalgsrkssvmslgrmsydqrsl

(SEQ ID NOs: 59 and 139) Exon 17 (constitutive)

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tecageteceggagetectactacgggecatggggecgcagegggeetgggecageegtegetecag ctggaacagcctcaagcacaagccgccgtcggcggagcatgagtccctgctctctgcggagcgcggcg geggegecegggtetgegaggttgeegeggaegagggeegeegeggggeegeaeeeetgeaeaeeea cacqcccaccacttcatcacqqqccccatctqqcqcaccqccaccqccaccqccqqcqcqctqtc cctcgacaacagggactcggtggacctggccgagctggtgcccgcggtgggcgcccacccccgggccg cctggagggcggcaggcccggccccgggcatgaggactgcaatggcaggatgcccagcatcgccaaa

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SSSRSSYYGPWGRSAAWASRRSSWNSLKHKPPSAEHESLLSAERGGGARVCEVAADEGPPRAAPLHTP HAHHIHHGPHLAHRHRHTLSLDNRDSVDLAELVPAVGAHPRAAWRAAGPAPGHEDCNGRMPSIAK DVFTKMGDRGDRGEDEEEIDY

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(SEQ ID NOs: 60 and 140) Exon 18 (constitutive)

accetqtgetteegegteegeaagatgategaegtetataageeegaetggtgegaggteegegaaga ctggtctgtctacctcttctctcccgagaacag

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TLCFRVRKMIDVYKPDWCEVREDWSVYLFSPENr

(SEQ ID NOs: 61 and 141) Exon 19 (constitutive)

35

gttccgggtcctgtgtcagaccattattgcccacaaactcttcgactacgtcgtcctggccttcatct ttctcaactgcatcaccatcgccctggagcggcctcagatcgaggccggcagcacc

FRVLCQTIIAHKLFDYVVLAFIFLNCITIALERPQIEAGST

(SEQ ID NOs: 62 and 142) Exon 20 (constitutive)

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gaacgcatctttctcaccgtgtccaactacatcttcacggccatcttcgtgggcgagatgacattgaa

ERIFLTVSNYIFTAIFVGEMTLK

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(SEQ ID NOs: 63 and 143) Exon 21 (constitutive)

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 $\tt gtagtctcgctgggcctgtacttcggcgagcagcggtacctacgcagcagctggaacgtgctggatgg$ $\verb|cttcttgtcttcgtgtccatcatcgacatcgtggtgtccctggcctcagccggggggagccaagatct|\\$ tgggggtcctccgagtcttgcggctcctgcgcaccctacgcccctgcg

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5	VVSLGLYFGEQAYLRSSWNVLDGFLVFVSIIDIVVSLASAGGAKILGVLRVLRLLRTLRPLr
	(SEQ ID NOs: 64 and 144) Exon 22 (constitutive)
10	tgtcatcagccgggcgccgggcctgaagctggtggtggagacactcatctcctccctc
	gcaacatcgtgctcatctgctgtgccttcttcatcatcttttggcatcctgggagtgcag
	VISRAPGLKLVVETLISSLKPIGNIVLICCAFFIIFGILGVQ
15	(SEQ ID NOs: 65 and 145) Exon 23 (constitutive)
	ctcttcaagggcaagttctaccactgtctgggcgtggacacccgcaacatcaccaaccgctcggactg
	catggecgccaactaccgetgggtccatcacaaatacaacttcgacaacctgggccag
	LFKGKFYHCLGVDTRNITNRSDCMAANYRWVHHKYNFDNLGQ
20	(SEQ ID NOs: 66 and 146) Exon 24 (constitutive)
	gctctgatgtccctctttgtcctggcatccaaggatggttgggtgaacatcatgtacaatggactgga
	tgctgttgctgtggaccagcag
25	ALMSLFVLASKDGWVNIMYNGLDAVAVDQQ
	(SEQ ID NOs: 67 and 147) Exon 25 (constitutive)
	cctgtgaccaaccacaacccctggatgctgctgtacttcatctccttcct
30	tgtgctcaacatgtttgtgggtgtcgtggtggagaacttccacaagtgccggcagcaccaggaggctg
	aagaggcacggcgtgaggagaagcggctgcggcgcctggagaagaagcgccgga
	PVTNHNPWMLLYFISFLLIVSFFVLNMFVGVVVENFHKCRQHQEAEEARRREEKRLRRLEKKRR
35	(SEQ ID NOs: 68 and 148) Exon 26 (constitutive)
	aggcccagcggctgccctactatgccacctattgtcacacccggctgctcatccactccatgtgcacc
	agecactacetggacatetteateacetteateatetgeeteaacgtggteaceatgtecetggagea
	ctacaatcagcccacg
40	kaqrlpyyatychtrllihsmctshyldifitfiiclnvvtmslehynqpt
	(SEQ ID NOs: 69 and 149) Exon 27 (constitutive)
	tecetggagacageeetcaagtactgcaactatatgttcaccactgtetttgtgetggaggetgtgct
	gaagctggtggcatttggtctgaggcgcttcttcaaggaccg
45	SLETALKYCNYMFTTVFVLEAVLKLVAFGLRRFFKDr
	(SEQ ID NOs: 70 and 150) Exon 28 (constitutive)

5 ${\tt tcaatgcggcoctgcccatcaatcccaccatcatccgcatcatgagggttctgcgcattgcccgag}$ WNQLDLAIVLLSVMGITLEEIEINAALPINPTIIRIMRVLRIAR (SEQ ID NOs: 71 and 151) Exon 29 (constitutive) 10 ${\tt tgctgaagctgttgaagatggccacaggaatgcgggccctgctggacacggtggtgcaagctttgccc}$ cag **VLKLLKMATGMRALLDTVVQALPQ** 15 (SEQ ID NOs: 72 and 152) Exon 30 (constitutive) $\tt gtgggcaacctgggcctccttcatgctgctcttcttcatctatgctgctctcggggtggagctctt$ tgggaagctgg 20 VGNLGLLFMLLFFIYAALGVELFGKL (SEQ ID NOs: 73 and 153) Exon 31 (constitutive) ${\tt tctgcaacgacgagaacccgtgcgagggcatgagccggcatgccaccttcgagaacttcggcatggcc}$ 25 ttcctcacactcttccaggtctccacgggtgacaactggaacgggatcatgaag vCNDENPCEGMSRHATFENFGMAFLTLFQVSTGDNWNGIMK (SEQ ID NOs: 74 and 154) Exon 32 (constitutive) 30 gacacgetgegggactgeacecaegacgagegeagetgeetgageageetgeagtttgtgtegeeget gtacttcgtgagcttcgtgctcaccgcgcagttcgtgctcatcaacgtggtggtggctgtgctcatga ageacetggaegacageacaaggaggegcaggaggaegcegagatggatgcegagetegagetggag atggeceatggeetgggeeetggeecgaggetgeetaeeggeteeeegggegeeeetggeegagggee 35 gggaggggggggggggggggacaccgaggggggcttgtgcggcgctgctactcgcctgcccag DTLRDCTHDERSCLSSLQFVSPLYFVSFVLTAQFVLINVVVAVLMKHLDDSNKEAQEDAEMDAELELE MAHGLGPGPRLPTGSPGAPGRGPGGAGGGGDTEGGLCRRCYSPAQ (SEQ ID NOs: 75 and 155) Exon 33A (variable) 40 gagaacctgtggctggacagcgtctctttaetcatcaag ENLWLDSVSLIIK (SEQ ID NOs: 76 and 156) Exon 33B (constitutive) 45 gactocttggaggggagotgaccatcatcgacaacctgtcgggctccatcttccaccactactcctc gcctgccggctgcaagaagtgtcaccacgacaagcaagag

DSLEGELTI IDNLSGSIFHHYSSPAGCKKCHHDKQE

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(SEQ ID NOs: 77 and 157) Exon 34 (constitutive)

gtgcagetggctgagacggaggcettetecetgaaeteagaeaggteetegteeateetgetgggtgaegaeetgagtetegaggaeeecaeageetgeecaeetggeegeaaagaeageaag

VQLAETEAFSLNSDRSSSILLGDDLSLEDPTACPPGRKDSK

(SEQ ID NOs: 78 and 158) Exon 35 (constitutive)

ggtgagetggacccacctgagcccatgcgtgtgggagacctgggcgaatgcttcttccccttgtcctctaccggccgtctcgccggatccagagaacttcctgtgtgagatggaggagatcccattcaaccctgtccggtcctggctgaaacatgacagcagtcaag

GELDPPEPMRVGDLGECFFPLSSTAVSPDPENFLCEMEE!PFNPVRSWLKHDSSQ

(SEQ ID NOs: 79 and 159) Exon 36A (constitutive)

cacceceaagtecetteteeeeggatgeeteeageeeteteetgeeeatgeeageegagttetteeae eetgeagtgtetgeeageeagaaaggeeeagaaaagggeaetggeaetggaaceeteeeeaagattge getgeagggeteetgggeatetetgeggteaceaagggteaaetgtaeeeteeteeggeag

appspfspdasspllpmpaeffhpavsasqkgpekgtgtgtlpkialqgswaslrsprvnctllrq

(SEQ ID NOs: 80 and 160) Exon 36B (mutually exclusive with Exon 37)

 $\tt gtaccgacacctcccaggccctagagcactggtctgtgggcaagggcaggatctaagccaggcct$

(SEQ ID NOs: 81 and 161) Exon 37 (mutually exclusive with exon 36B)

gccaccqggagcgacacgtcgctggacgccagcccagcagctccgcgggcagcctgcagaccacgct

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ATGSDTSLDASPSSSAGSLQTTLEDSLTLSDSPRRALGPPAPAPGPRAGLSPAARRRLSLRGRGLFSL RGLRAHQRSHSSGGSTSPGCTHHDSMDPSDEEGRGGAGGGGAGSEHSETLSSLSLTSLFCPPPPPPAP GLTPARKFSSTSSLAAPGRPHAAALAHGLARSPSWAADRSKDPPGRAPLPMGLGPLAPPPQPLPGELE PGDAASKRKR-

RNA processing mechanisms

Figure 5 is a schematic diagram of the RNA processing leading to the 8 variants. The portion of the Figure above the scale bar represents the CACNAII gene. The three sections of the gene involved in alternative processing are drawn to scale.

At the left, variable exon 9 (olive) is flanked by constitutive exons 8 (black) and 10 (purple). The black lines between exons represent introns.

In the middle, constitutive exon 32 is black. Exon 33 is divided into 2 parts, 39-nucleotide (nt) variable exon 33A (orange) and 108-nt constitutive exon 33B (blue).

At the right, exon 36 is divided into 2 parts, 197-nt constitutive exon 36A (black) and variable exon 36B (red), encoding seven as before a stop codon.

Constitutive exon 37 (green) encodes 214 as before a stop codon.

Exons 1-7, 11-31 and 34-35 are not represented.

The blue and red lines and red arrow above and below the exons represent alternative RNA processing reactions.

Below the scale bar are representations of the 8 α_{11} protein products. The portions of the protein derived from exons 1-7, 11-31 and 34-35 are uncolored. Portions derived from the other exons are color-coded as in the gene map, above. Note that exon 36B encodes only 7 aa. The thin blue and red lines above the protein

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products correspond to the lines around the gene map and represent the type of RNA processing reactions that resulted in the particular variant.

a. Alternative splicing of exon 9

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Variants 1 – 4 result from the deletion of exon 9. In the blue reaction, splicing takes place between the donor 3' to exon 8 and the acceptor 5' to exon 10. Variants 5 – 8 result from RNAs subjected to the red reactions. In this case, two splicing reactions take place. The donor 3' of exon 8 and the acceptor 5' of exon 9 are joined as are the donor 3' of exon 9 and the acceptor 5' of exon 10. The portion encoded by exon 9 is retained.

b. Selection of the splice acceptor preceding exon 33A or 33B

Variants 1, 2, 5 and 6 result from the deletion of exon 33A. In the blue reaction, splicing takes place between the donor 3' of exon 32 and the acceptor internal to exon 33. Variants 3, 4, 7 and 8 result from RNAs subjected to the red reaction. In this case, splicing takes place between the donor 3' of exon 32 and the acceptor 5' of exon 33. The portion encoded by exon 33A is retained.

c. Processing of the 3' end

Variants 1, 3, 5 and 7 result from the deletion of exon 36B. In the blue reaction, splicing takes place between the donor internal to exon 36 and the acceptor 5' of exon 37. Exon 37 encodes the final 214 aa of the protein in these variants. Variants 2, 4, 6 and 8 result from RNAs subjected to the red reaction. In this case, the RNA is cleaved and polyadenylated just 3' of exon 36. In these variants, exon 36B encodes the final 7 aa of the protein.

Isolated and purified polypeptides or proteins, according to the present invention comprise at least about 10% by weight of a composition of proteins. Preferably the composition contains at least 25%, 50%, 75%, 85%, or 90% by weight of the particular polypeptide or protein. Any purification method can be applied, either to naturally expressing cells, such as neurons, or to cells which have been engineered to express a recombinant form of the polypeptide or protein. Purification methods known in the art which can be used without limitation include affinity chromatography, immunoprecipitation, immunoaffinity chromatography, molecular sieves, and ion exchange chromatography.

Non-naturally occurring variants which retain substantially the same biological activities as naturally occurring protein variants, such as calcium channel function, are also included here. Preferably, naturally or non-naturally occurring variants have amino acid sequences which are at least 85%, 90%, or 95% identical to the amino acid sequences shown in the SEQUENCE LISTING found at the end of the application. More preferably, the molecules are at least 98% or 99% identical. Percent identity is determined using the Smith-Waterman homology search algorithm using an affine gap search with a gap open penalty of 12 and a gap extension penalty of 1. The Smith-Waterman homology search algorithm is taught in Smith and Waterman, Adv. Appl. Math. (1981) 2:482-489.

Guidance in determining which amino acid residues can be substituted, inserted, or deleted without abolishing biological or immunological activity can be found using computer programs well known in the art, such as DNASTAR software. Preferably, amino acid changes in secreted protein variants are conservative amino acid changes, i.e., substitutions of similarly charged or uncharged amino acids. A conservative amino acid change involves substitution of one of a family of amino acids which are related in their side chains. Naturally occurring amino acids are generally divided into four families: acidic (aspartate, glutamate), basic (lysine, arginine, histidine), non-polar (alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, phenylalanine, methionine, tryptophan), and uncharged polar (glycine, asparagine, glutamine, cystine, serine, threonine, tyrosine) amino acids. Phenylalanine, tryptophan, and tyrosine are sometimes classified jointly as aromatic amino acids.

It is reasonable to expect that an isolated replacement of a leucine with an isoleucine or valine, an aspartate with a glutamate, a threonine with a serine, or a similar replacement of an amino acid with a structurally related amino acid will not have a major effect on the biological properties of the resulting variant. Whether an amino acid change results in a functional calcium channel subunit protein or polypeptide can readily be determined by testing the altered protein or polypeptide in a functional assay.

Variants of the calcium channel subunit proteins disclosed herein include glycosylated forms, aggregative conjugates with other molecules, and covalent

conjugates with unrelated chemical moieties. Covalent variants can be prepared by linking functionalities to groups which are found in the amino acid chain or at the N-or C-terminal residue, as is known in the art. Variants also include allelic variants, species variants, and muteins. Truncations or deletions of regions, particularly exons, which do not affect functional activity of the proteins are also variants.

A subset of mutants, called muteins, is a group of polypeptides in which neutral amino acids, such as serines, are substituted for cysteine residues which do not participate in disulfide bonds. These mutants may be stable over a broader temperature range than native proteins or have other beneficial changes in physicochemical properties.

Any coding sequence can be used to generate a recombinant form of the protein which results in the proper amino acids being used. However, the natural human nucleic acid sequences are preferred. The coding sequence can be fused, for example, to expression control sequences, signal sequences, and/or to other coding sequences to form a fusion protein. All of the exons of a particular subunit can be used in such constructs. Alternatively one or more isolated exons can be used.

Nucleic acids which are isolated and purified are separated from the rest of the chromosome on which they reside in human cells. Preferably the particular nucleic acid is the predominant molecular species in a composition. More preferably the nucleic acid comprises at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, or 95% of the molecular species (including only nucleic acids) in the composition.

Degenerate polynucleotide sequences which encode amino acid sequences of the proteins and variants, as well as homologous nucleotide sequences which are at least 65%, 75%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 98%, or 99% identical to the nucleotide sequences shown in the Sequence Listing are also polynucleotide molecules of the invention. Percent sequence identity is determined using computer programs which employ the Smith-Waterman algorithm, such as the MPSRCH program (Oxford Molecular), using an affine gap search with the following parameters: a gap open penalty of 12 and a gap extension penalty of 1.

Typically, homologous polynucleotide sequences can be confirmed by hybridization under stringent conditions, as is known in the art. For example, using

the following wash conditions--2 x SSC (0.3 M NaCl, 0.03 M sodium citrate, pH 7.0), 0.1% SDS, room temperature twice, 30 minutes each; then 2 x SSC, 0.1% SDS, 50 °C once, 30 minutes; then 2 x SSC, room temperature twice, 10 minutes each--homologous sequences can be identified which contain at most about 25-30% basepair mismatches. More preferably, homologous nucleic acid strands contain 15-25% basepair mismatches, even more preferably 5-15% basepair mismatches.

The nucleic acid can be cloned into a vector, particularly an expression vector. Any suitable expression vector as is known in the art may be used without limitation. Host cells are preferably used which are human, although other host cells including yeast, bacteria, insect, plant and mammalian cells can be used. The cells can be selected for their desired properties. Typically these are selected for their interaction with a vector, or for a property which renders nucleic acids or proteins easily obtainable from the cells.

Host cells which express an α_1 subunit according to the present invention or an α_1 polypeptide can be used to test compounds or compositions for their possible beneficial effect for treating epilepsy. Thus, a test substance can be contacted with such a host cell and the calcium ion uptake by the cell can be measured. A test substance which blocks calcium ion uptake by the cell is identified as a candidate drug for treating or preventing epilepsy. Methods for measuring calcium uptake are known in the art, and any such method may be used for drug identification. See for example, Lee *et al.*, *J. Neuroscience 19:*1912-21, 1999.

The following examples are provided to demonstrate how the invention was made. However, the subject matter of the invention is not limited to any particular method of making the claimed polypeptides, proteins, vectors, and host cells.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Analysis of sequence produced by the Human Chromosome 22 Sequencing Group at the Sanger Centre revealed putative exons of a T α_1 subunit gene in three overlapping clones of a human genomic DNA library mapping to 22q12.3-13.2: dJ1104E15 (AL022312), dJ206C7 (AL008716) and dJ172B20 (AL022319). tblastn alignment with the α_1 G (AF027984) or α_1 H (AF051946) amino-acid (aa) sequence

identified 26 exons; FEX analysis, another six; and inspection of upstream sequence, a candidate exon encoding the N-terminus. Potential polyadenylation signals were located with POLYAH. Putative exons were assembled into a provisional cDNA sequence and primers for polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-amplification of overlapping portions of the cDNA were designed with OLIGO (National Biosciences).

PCR screening of a multiple-tissue cDNA panel (Clontech #K14201) revealed brain as the most abundant cDNA source. Hence, human brain cDNA (Clontech #74001) served as template in subsequent PCRs. The predominant (and in some cases secondary) product of each PCR was recovered on a spin-column (Qiagen #28704) after agarose gel electrophoresis, cluted in water and submitted for sequencing. Exon boundaries were determined by comparison of the cDNA and genomic sequences; ambiguity was resolved by matching potential donors and acceptors to consensus sequences.

Fig. 1 shows 28 of the 49 overlapping PCR products (top) that contributed to the cDNA sequence. Also pictured are exon maps of the cDNA (middle) and the gene (bottom). CACNAII consists of at least 37 exons distributed over at least 116,390 basepairs (bp). Most PCRs yielded a single product suggesting constitutive splicing of 33 exons (colored gray or black in the cDNA and genomic maps). Certain PCRs, however, yielded multiple products (interrupted black bars), indicative of alternative splicing. PCRs spanning the 105-nucleotide (nt) exon 9 (red), for example, yielded two products, (14 and +14; thus, exon 9 is a cassette exon subject to type A alternative splicing. Sequencing of PCR products spanning exon 33 revealed that exon 33 harbors an internal acceptor that leads to type C alternative splicing and deletion of 39 nt at the 5' end of the exon defined as exon 33A (orange).

Sequence analysis suggested the possibility of alternative 3' exons. Indeed, PCR-amplification of brain cDNA followed by sequencing showed two forms with substantially different 3' termini. In the first form, both exon 36A and 36B (green) are part of the mature mRNA. Exon 37 (blue) is presumably lost as a result of polyadenylation and cleavage at a site 686 bp downstream of the stop codon in exon 36B. In the second form, splicing between an alternative donor internal to exon 36

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and the acceptor 5' of exon 37 leads to substitution of exon 36B with exon 37. The polyadenylation signal of exon 37 has not been identified.

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Introns 2 – 8 and 11 – 35 are common U2type GTAG introns. The donors of introns 9 and 10 begin with the dinucleotide GC. Intron 1, like its counterparts in CACNAIG, CACNAIH (unpublished observations), and CACNAIA, is a rare U12type ATAC intron. Exon 1 includes at least 709 bp of 5' untranslated region and the putative start codon.

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Fig. 2 shows a schematic of the deduced protein product. Sequence alignment with other members of the α_1 subunit family suggests a transmembrane topology with four domains (D1 - D4), each consisting of six membrane-spanning segments, a pore loop and cytoplasmic and extracellular connecting loops. The domains are linked by interdomain loops (ID12, ID23, ID34), which, along with the amino- (N) and carboxyl- (C) termini, reside in the cytoplasm. Six of the 35 a,I splice sites (black bars) are conserved in the other α_1 subunits studied to date, α_{1A} , α_{1C} , α_{1D} , α_{1F} , α_{1S} , α_{1G} and α_{1H} and another three are located within nine nucleotides in the multiple sequence alignment (purple bars). Seventeen of the splice sites (green bars) are in identical locations in the other T subunits, but are not conserved in non-T subunits. Only nine splice sites (pink bars) are unique to $\alpha_1 I$; these sites join exons that contribute to the cytoplasmic ID1-2, ID2-3 and C-terminus. As indicated by residue color-coding, α_{11} is quite similar to the two other human T α_1 subunits in its membrane-spanning segments — 84% of residues are identical and 92% have similarity scores (4 (see legend). Likewise, the pore loops and ID34 are similar. Apart from islands of similarity, the large extracellular loop of D1, the N- and C-termini and ID12 and ID23 differ from their counterparts in α_{1G} and α_{1H} . Five potential N-glycosylation sites in putative extracellular portions of the protein and 28 potential phosphorylation sites in putative cytoplasmic portions were identified with PROSITE. Although some of the potential phosphorylation sites are conserved among the T α_l subunits, the majority are unique to α_H . Seventeen extracellular cysteines, including six conserved in all ten reported human a, subunits (black and

purple hooks) and nine conserved among T α_1 subunits (green hooks), may play a role in maintaining proper conformation of the extracellular portions of the protein.

Regions derived from portions of the RNA subject to alternative processing are highlighted with a blue background. The shortest predicted product $(\Delta 9\Delta 33\,A\Delta 37)$ has 1,968 as residues; the longest $(\Delta 36B)$, 2,223 as residues. The reported rat orthologue corresponds to the human $\Delta 9\Delta 36B$ variant with a few differences. Exon 32 of the human gene lacks an 18-as stretch of cysteines, glycines and prolines found in rat (arrow). In addition, 40 nt of exon 34 are deleted in the rat sequence. This leads to a frameshift and early termination of the rat as sequence. In addition, the published rat sequence contains sequencing errors in exon 35.

T currents display heterogeneity of biophysical and pharmacological properties and subcellular localization. Identification of multiple T α_1 subunit genes reveals one likely source of heterogeneity. Indeed, heterologous expression experiments demonstrate biophysical differences among the isoforms. The molecular diversity generated by alternative splicing of T α_1 subunit genes has the potential to yield additional functional diversity. *CACNAII* is subject to alternative splicing in at least two exons while *CACNAIG* undergoes alternative splicing in at least six (unpublished observations). Variation in channel phosphorylation and isoform-specific interactions with other proteins may also contribute to diversity. Knowledge of the α_{11} as sequence and its variants will allow explicit tests of these ideas.

The human chromosome 17 genomic DNA of clone hCIT.22_K_21 (AC004590, Whitehead Institute/MIT Center for Genome Research) appeared to include most or all of *CACNAIG*, a gene encoding the T Ca²⁺ channel α_{1G} subunit. Thirty-four probable exons were identified by blastn alignment with the rat α_{1G} cDNA sequence (AF027984). Four potential polyadenylation signals were located by blastn alignment with sequences (R40146, R43876, R43935, R46109) derived from the 3' end of infant brain cDNA clones. A provisional cDNA sequence was assembled and primers for polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-amplification of overlapping portions of human brain cDNA (Clontech #74001) were designed with OLIGO (National Biosciences).

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PCR products were fractionated by agarose-gel electrophoresis. When adequately resolved, individual products were cut from the gel, recovered on a spin-column (Qiagen #28704), eluted in water and submitted for sequencing. When resolution was incomplete, DNA was recovered from the gel for cloning into pCRΔ2.1-TOPO (Invitrogen #K4500-01). Insert DNA was PCR-amplified from overnight cultures of white colonies, purified by agarose-gel electrophoresis and submitted for sequencing. Exon boundaries were determined by comparison of the cDNA and genomic sequences; ambiguity was resolved by matching potential donors and acceptors to consensus sequences. All reported splice variants were observed in at least two independent PCRs.

Fig. 3 shows 25 of the 83 overlapping PCR products (top, black bars) that contributed to the cDNA sequence (AF134985, AF134986). Also pictured are exon maps of the cDNA (middle) and the gene (bottom). CACNAIG consists of at least 38 exons distributed over at least 66,490 basepairs (bp). Thirty-four exons have conterparts in the rat cDNA sequence; exons 14, 26, 34 and 35 are newly-identified. Most PCRs yielded a single product suggesting constitutive splicing of 32 exons (colored gray or black in the cDNA and genomic maps). Certain PCRs, however, yielded multiple products (interrupted black bars), indicative of alternative splicing. PCRs spanning the 69-nucleotide (nt) exon 14 (brown), for example, yielded two products, $\Delta 14$ and +14; thus, exon 14 is a cassette exon subject to type A alternative splicing. PCRs spanning cassette exons 34 (144 nt) and 35 (135 nt) yielded three products ($\Delta 34\Delta 35$, +34 $\Delta 35$ and +34+35); the $\Delta 34+35$ product was not detected. Sequencing of PCR products spanning exons 25 and 26 revealed that exon 25 harbors an internal donor that leads to type D alternative splicing and deletion of 21 nt at the 3' end of the exon (defined as exon 25B, red); the 54-nt exon 26 (blue) is a cassette exon. Exons 25B and 26 appear to be mutually exclusive in that only Δ25B+26 and +25BΔ26 variants were detected. Sequence data also demonstrated that a 237-nt, protein-coding portion of exon 38 (defined as exon 38B, green) could be excised as an intron (type E alternative splicing). Additional evidence for alternative processing of the human α_{10} RNA comes from four clones of a normalized, oligo(dT)-primed infant brain cDNA library. Sequence derived from

these clones (red bars), suggests two polyadenylation sites: an upstream site 321 nt 3' to the stop codon and a downstream site 719 nt 3' to the stop codon. Cleavage at the upstream site would delete 398 nt of the mRNA, defined as exon 38D (purple). Exon 1 includes at least 432 bp of 5' untranslated region and the putative start codon. Introns 2 – 37 are common U2type GTAG introns. Intron 1, like its counterparts in CACNAIH (unpublished observations), CACNAII (submitted), and CACNAIA, is a rare U12type ATAC intron.

Fig. 4 shows a schematic of the deduced protein products encoded by CACNAIG. Like other members of the α_1 subunit family, α_{1G} has a proposed transmembrane topology with four domains (D1 – D4), each consisting of six membrane-spanning segments, a pore loop and cytoplasmic and extracellular connecting loops. The domains are linked by interdomain loops (ID12, ID23, ID34), which, along with the amino- (N) and carboxyl- (C) termini, reside in the cytoplasm. Regions derived from portions of the RNA subject to alternative splicing are highlighted with a blue background, with mutually-exclusive exons 25B and 26 placed side-by-side. The shortest predicted product ($\Delta 14+25B\Delta 26\Delta 34\Delta 35\Delta 38B$) has 2,171 amino-acid (aa) residues; the longest ($+14\Delta 25B+26+34+35+38B$), 2,377 aa residues. The reported rat α_{1G} aa sequence corresponds to the human ($14+25B\Delta 26\Delta 34\Delta 35+38B$ splice variant and is 93% identical. Additional features of the α_{1G} protein product including residue similarity to the other T α_1 subunits, comparison of splice sites and sites of potential post-translational modification are shown in Fig. 2 and described in the legend.

Six CACNAIG exons undergo alternative splicing, leading to a possible 64 splice variants. Analysis of full-length PCR products is underway to determine relative splice-variant abundance. Of note, all potential variants maintain the open reading frame, leave the transmembrane topology intact and, hence, could be translated into plausible protein products. Individual α_{1G} isoforms may play distinct cellular roles by virtue of differences in biophysical behavior, protein-protein interactions, second-messenger-dependent regulation or other isoform-specific properties.

Claims

1. An isolated and purified α _{1G} subunit of human brai	n T calcium channel
selected from splice variants 1-64 as shown in Table 1.	
2. An isolated and purified nucleic acid encoding the	α_{1G} subunit of claim 1.
The isolated and purified nucleic acid of claim 2 w	hich comprises a
human coding sequence as described in Table 1.	
4. An isolated and purified polypeptide which comprise	ises a translated exon
selected from the group consisting of 1-38D as shown in Table	e 2.
5. An isolated and purified nucleic acid which comprise	ises an exon selected
from the group consisting of 1-38D as shown in Table 2.	
6. An isolated and purified α_{11} subunit of human brain	n T calcium channel
selected from splice variants 1-8 as shown in Table 3.	
7. An isolated and purified nucleic acid encoding the	α_{11} subunit of claim 6.
8. The isolated and purified nucleic acid of claim 7 w	hich comprises a
human coding sequence as described in Table 3.	
9. An isolated and purified polypeptide which compr	ises a translated exon
selected from the group consisting of 1-37 as shown in Table	4
30 An isolated and purified nucleic acid which compr	ises an exon selected
from the group consisting of 1-37 as shown in Table 4.	
20 11. An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid	of claim 2.
12. An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid	of claim 3.
35 13. An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid	of claim 7.
14. An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid	of claim 8.
15. A host cell comprising an expression vector accor	ding to claim 11.
40 25 16. A host cell comprising an expression vector accor	ding to claim 12.
17. A host cell comprising an expression vector accor	ding to claim 13.
18. A host cell comprising an expression vector according	rding to claim 14.
19. A method to identify candidate drugs for treating	epilepsy, comprising
45 the steps of:	
30 contacting a cell according to claim 15 with a test	t substance;

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measuring uptake by the cell of calcium ions, wherein a test substance which inhibits the uptake by the cell of calcium ions is identified as a candidate drug for treating epilepsy.

20. A method to identify candidate drugs for treating epilepsy, comprising the steps of:

contacting a cell according to claim 16 with a test substance;

measuring uptake by the cell of calcium ions, wherein a test substance which inhibits the uptake by the cell of calcium ions is identified as a candidate drug for treating epilepsy.

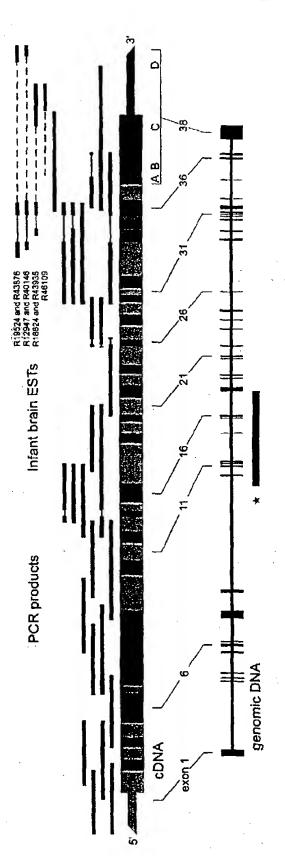
21. A method to identify candidate drugs for treating epilepsy, comprising the steps of:

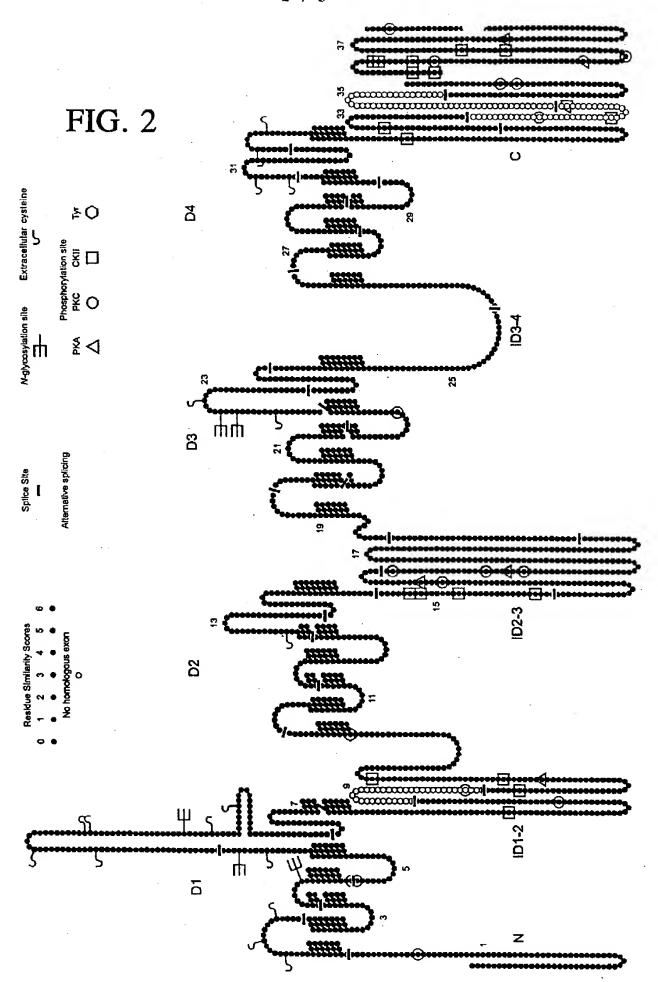
contacting a cell according to claim 17 with a test substance;
measuring uptake by the cell of calcium ions, wherein a test substance
which inhibits the uptake by the cell of calcium ions is identified as a candidate drug
for treating epilepsy.

22. A method to identify candidate drugs for treating epilepsy, comprising the steps of:

contacting a cell according to claim 18 with a test substance;
measuring uptake by the cell of calcium ions, wherein a test substance
which inhibits the uptake by the cell of calcium ions is identified as a candidate drug
for treating epilepsy.

FIG. 1





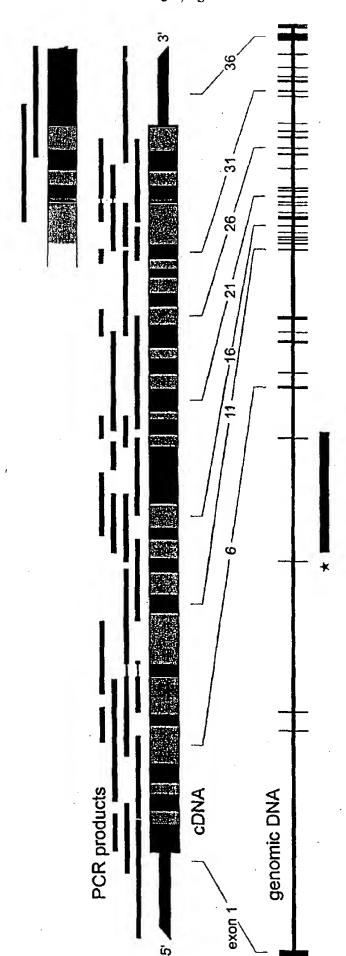
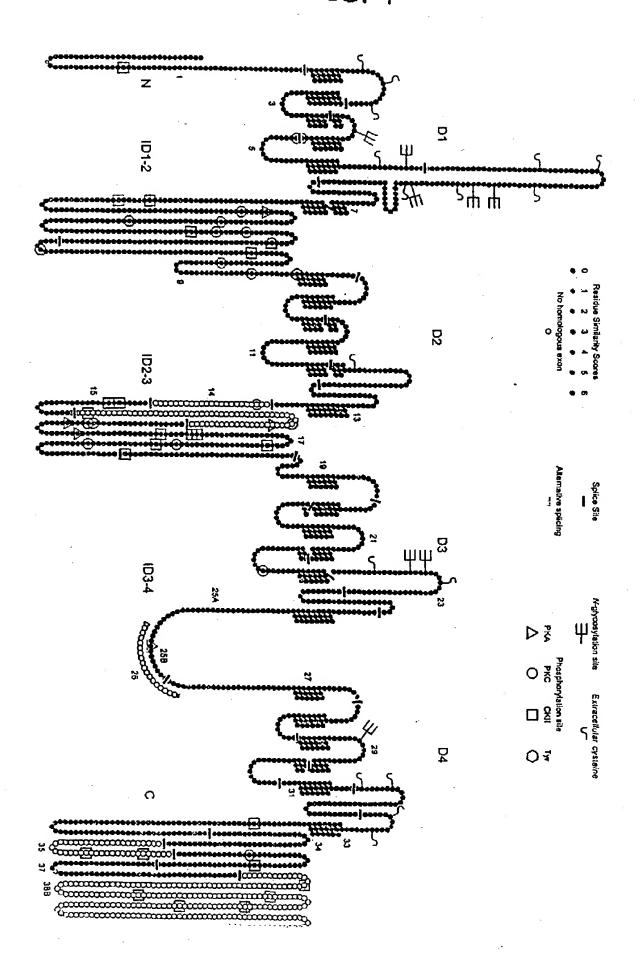
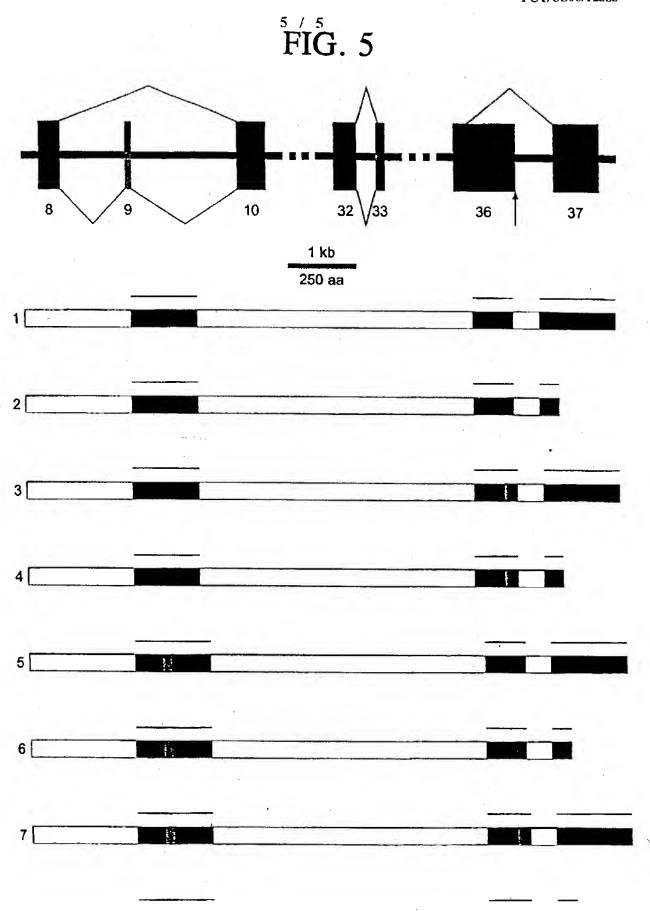


FIG. 3

FIG. 4





SEQUENCE LISTING

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480

540

600

660

720

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840

900

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Gly Pro Gly Ser Ala Glu Lys Asp Pro Gly Ser Ala Asp Ser Glu Ala
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Glu Gly Leu Pro Tyr Pro Ala Leu Ala Pro Val Val Phe Phe Tyr Leu
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Cys Arg Ile Leu Gln
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Gly Asn Val Leu Leu Cys Phe Phe Val Phe Phe Ile Phe Gly Ile
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Val Gly Val Gln Leu Trp Ala Gly Leu Leu Arg Asn Arg Cys Phe Leu
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Cys Arg Ser Val Pro Thr Leu Arg Gly Asp Gly Gly Gly Pro Pro
                          40
Cys Gly Leu Asp Tyr Glu Ala Tyr Asn Ser Ser Ser Asn Thr Thr Cys
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Val Asn Trp Asn Gln Tyr Tyr Thr Asn Cys Ser Ala Gly Glu His Asn
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Pro Phe Lys Gly Ala Ile Asn Phe Asp Asn Ile Gly Tyr Ala Trp Ile
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Ala Ile Phe Gln
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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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260

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100 105 110
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Phe Gly Tyr Ile Lys Asn Pro Tyr Asn Ile Phe Asp Gly Val Ile Val
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Thr Phe Arg Leu Met Arg Val Leu Lys Leu Val Arg Phe Leu Pro Ala
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                           25
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Leu Asp Gly Asp Gly Asp Arg Lys Lys Cys Leu Ala
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                                  10
Pro Leu Ile Ile His Thr Ala Ala Thr Pro Met Ser Leu Pro Lys Ser
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Thr Ser Thr Gly Leu Gly Glu Ala Leu Gly Pro Ala Ser Arg Arg Thr
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Trp Thr Ser Arg Arg Ser Ser Arg Asn Ser Leu Gly Arg Ala Pro Ser
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                            25
Leu Lys Arg Arg Ser Pro Ser Gly Glu Arg Arg Ser Leu Leu Ser Gly
                         40
Glu Gly Gln Glu Ser Gln Asp Glu Glu Glu Ser Ser Glu Glu Glu Arg
                     55
                                        60
Ala Ser Pro Ala Gly Ser Asp His Arg His Arg Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg
                70
Glu Ala Lys Ser Ser Phe Asp Leu Pro Asp Thr Leu Gln Val Pro Gly
                               90
             85
Leu His Arg Thr Ala Ser Gly Arg Gly Ser Ala Ser Glu His Gln Asp
                            105
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Cys Asn Gly Lys Ser Ala Ser Gly Arg Leu Ala Arg Ala Leu Arg Pro
      115 120
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Leu Ala Glu Met Thr Val Lys

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                                             30
Ile Leu Val Ser Met Val Ser Asp Ser Gly Thr Lys Ile Leu Gly Met
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Leu Arg Val Leu Arg Leu Leu Arg Thr Leu Arg Pro Leu Arg
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His Lys Tyr Asn Phe Asp Asn Leu Gly Gln
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<212> PRT

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Val Leu Lys Leu Leu Lys Met Ala Val Gly Met Arg Ala Leu Leu Asp
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Thr Val Met Gln Ala Leu Pro Gln
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      <211> 26
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Val Gly Asn Leu Gly Leu Leu Phe Met Leu Leu Phe Phe Ile Phe Ala
               5
Ala Leu Gly Val Glu Leu Phe Gly Asp Leu
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      <210> 114
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      <400> 114
Glu'Cys Asp Glu Thr His Pro Cys Glu Gly Leu Gly Arg His Ala Thr
                5
                                  10
                                        • 15
Phe Arg Asn Phe Gly Met Ala Phe Leu Thr Leu Phe Arg Val Ser Thr
                               25
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Gly Asp Asn Trp Asn Gly Ile Met Lys
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      <211> 118
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<400> 115 Asp Thr Leu Arg Asp Cys Asp Gln Glu Ser Thr Cys Tyr Asn Thr Val 10 Ile Ser Pro Ile Tyr Phe Val Ser Phe Val Leu Thr Ala Gln Phe Val 25 20 Leu Val Asn Val Val Ile Ala Val Leu Met Lys His Leu Glu Glu Ser 40 Asn Lys Glu Ala Lys Glu Glu Ala Glu Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Glu Leu 60 55 Glu Met Lys Thr Leu Ser Pro Gln Pro His Ser Pro Leu Gly Ser Pro 70 75 Phe Leu Trp Pro Gly Val Glu Gly Pro Asp Ser Pro Asp Ser Pro Lys 90 85 Pro Gly Ala Leu His Pro Ala Ala His Ala Arg Ser Ala Ser His Phe 100 105 Ser Leu Glu His Pro Thr

115

<210> 116

<211> 48

<212> PRT

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<210> 117

<211> 45

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35 40 45

<210> 118

<211> 56

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 118

Met Gln Pro His Pro Thr Glu Leu Pro Gly Pro Asp Leu Leu Thr Val

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Arg Lys Ser Gly Val Ser Arg Thr His Ser Leu Pro Asn Asp Ser Tyr
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Met Cys Arg His Gly Ser Thr Ala Glu Gly Pro Leu Gly His Arg Gly
                       40
Trp Gly Leu Pro Lys Ala Gln Ser
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     <211> 57
     <212> PRT
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Gly Ser Val Leu Ser Val His Ser Gln Pro Ala Asp Thr Ser Tyr Ile
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1
   5
Leu Gln Leu Pro Lys Asp Ala Pro His Leu Leu Gln Pro His Ser Ala
Pro Thr Trp Gly Thr Ile Pro Lys Leu Pro Pro Pro Gly Arg Ser Pro
   35 40
Leu Ala Gln Arg Pro Leu Arg Arg Gln
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Ala Ala Ile Arg Thr Asp Ser Leu Asp Val Gln Gly Leu Gly Ser Arg
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Glu Asp Leu Leu Ala Glu
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     <211> 79
     <212> PRT
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Val Ser Gly Pro Ser Pro Pro Leu Ala Arg Ala Tyr Ser Phe Trp Gly
     5
                   10 15
1
Gln Ser Ser Thr Gln Ala Gln Gln His Ser Arg Ser His Ser Lys Ile
       20
                 25
Ser Lys His Met Thr Pro Pro Ala Pro Cys Pro Gly Pro Glu Pro Asn
     35 40
Trp Gly Lys Gly Pro Pro Glu Thr Arg Ser Ser Leu Glu Leu Asp Thr
                   55
Glu Leu Ser Trp Ile Ser Gly Asp Leu Leu Pro Pro Gly Gly Gln
                 70
     <210> 122
     <211> 143
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Glu Glu Pro Pro Ser Pro Arg Asp Leu Lys Lys Cys Tyr Ser Val Glu
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                              10
Ala Gln Ser Cys Gln Arg Arg Pro Thr Ser Trp Leu Asp Glu Gln Arg
Arg His Ser Ile Ala Val Ser Cys Leu Asp Ser Gly Ser Gln Pro His
     35 40
Leu Gly Thr Asp Pro Ser Asn Leu Gly Gly Gln Pro Leu Gly Gly Pro
  50 55
Gly Ser Arg Pro Lys Lys Leu Ser Pro Pro Ser Ile Thr Ile Asp
                        75
               70
Pro Pro Glu Ser Gln Gly Pro Arg Thr Pro Pro Ser Pro Gly Ile Cys
                     90
            85
Leu Arg Arg Ala Pro Ser Ser Asp Ser Lys Asp Pro Leu Ala Ser
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                 105
Gly Pro Pro Asp Ser Met Ala Ala Ser Pro Ser Pro Lys Lys Asp Val
     115 120
                                        125
Leu Ser Leu Ser Gly Leu Ser Ser Asp Pro Ala Asp Leu Asp Pro
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     <210> 123
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     <213> Homo sapiens
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Met Ala Glu Ser Ala Ser Pro Pro Ser Ser Ser Ala Ala Ala Pro Ala
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Ala Glu Pro Gly. Val Thr Thr Glu Gln Pro Gly Pro Arg Ser Pro Pro
      20
                          25
Ser Ser Pro Pro Gly Leu Glu Glu Pro Leu Asp Gly Ala Asp Pro His
                      40
Val Pro His Pro Asp Leu Ala Pro Ile Ala Phe Phe Cys Leu Arg Gln
   50 55
Thr Thr Ser Pro Arg Asn Trp Cys Ile Lys Met Val Cys Asn Pro
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     <210> 124
     <211> 37
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     <213> Homo sapiens
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Trp Phe Glu Cys Val Ser Met Leu Val Ile Leu Leu Asn Cys Val Thr
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     5
Leu Gly Met Tyr Gln Pro Cys Asp Asp Met Asp Cys Leu Ser Asp Arg
          20
                           25
Cys Lys Ile Leu Gln
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     <210> 125
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     <212> PRT
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<400> 125

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Val Phe Asp Asp Phe Ile Phe Ile Phe Phe Ala Met Glu Met Val Leu
               5
                                 10
Lys Met Val Ala Leu Gly Ile Phe Gly Lys Lys Cys Tyr Leu Gly Asp
          20
                       25
Thr Trp Asn Arg Leu Asp Phe Phe Ile Val Met Ala Gly
                          40
      <210> 126
      <211> 32
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 126
Met Val Glu Tyr Ser Leu Asp Leu Gln Asn Ile Asn Leu Ser Ala Ile
               5
                                 10
Arg Thr Val Arg Val Leu Arg Pro Leu Lys Ala Ile Asn Arg Val Pro
          20
                               25
      <210> 127
      <211> 54
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 127
Ser Met Arg Ile Leu Val Asn Leu Leu Leu Asp Thr Leu Pro Met Leu
                                  10
Gly Asn Val Leu Leu Cys Phe Phe Val Phe Phe Ile Phe Gly Ile
         20
Ile Gly Val Gln Leu Trp Ala Gly Leu Leu Arg Asn Arg Cys Phe Leu
                          40
Glu Glu Asn Phe Thr Ile
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     <210> 128
     <211> 105
     <212> PRT
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     <400> 128
Gln Gly Asp Val Ala Leu Pro Pro Tyr Tyr Gln Pro Glu Glu Asp Asp
                                  10
Glu Met Pro Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ser Gly Asp Asn Gly Ile Met Gly
           20
Cys His Glu Ile Pro Pro Leu Lys Glu Gln Gly Arg Glu Cys Cys Leu
                          40
Ser Lys Asp Asp Val Tyr Asp Phe Gly Ala Gly Arg Gln Asp Leu Asn
                      55 -
Ala Ser Gly Leu Cys Val Asn Trp Asn Arg Tyr Tyr Asn Val Cys Arg
                   70
                                     75
Thr Gly Ser Ala Asn Pro His Lys Gly Ala Ile Asn Phe Asp Asn Ile
             85
Gly Tyr Ala Trp Ile Val Ile Phe Gln
           100
```

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<210> 129
     <211> 31
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 129
Val Ile Thr Leu Glu Gly Trp Val Glu Ile Met Tyr Tyr Val Met Asp
       5
                           10
1
Ala His Ser Phe Tyr Asn Phe Ile Tyr Phe Ile Leu Leu Ile Ile
         20
                           25
     <210> 130
     <211> 104
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 130
Val Gly Ser Phe Phe Met Ile Asn Leu Cys Leu Val Val Ile Ala Thr
                     10
           5
Gln Phe Ser Glu Thr Lys Gln Arg Glu His Arg Leu Met Leu Glu Gln
     . 20
                           25
Arg Gln Arg Tyr Leu Ser Ser Ser Thr Val Ala Ser Tyr Ala Glu Pro
                       40
Gly Asp Cys Tyr Glu Glu Ile Phe Gln Tyr Val Cys His Ile Leu Arg
                    55
Lys Ala Lys Arg Arg Ala Leu Gly Leu Tyr Gln Ala Leu Gln Ser Arg
                          75
        70
Arg Gln Ala Leu Gly Pro Glu Ala Pro Ala Pro Ala Lys Pro Gly Pro
          85
His Ala Lys Glu Pro Arg His Tyr
          100
     <210> 131
     <211> 35
     <212> PRT
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     <400> 131
His Gly Lys Thr Lys Gly Gln Gly Asp Glu Gly Arg His Leu Gly Ser
1
                     10
           5
Arg His Cys Gln Thr Leu His Gly Pro Ala Ser Pro Gly Asn Asp His
                           25
Ser Gly Arg
       35
     <210> 132
     <211> 142
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 132
Glu Leu Cys Pro Gln His Ser Pro Leu Asp Ala Thr Pro His Thr Leu
     5 . 10
1
Val Gln Pro Ile Pro Ala Thr Leu Ala Ser Asp Pro Ala Ser Cys Pro
                            25
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Cys Cys Gln His Glu Asp Gly Arg Arg Pro Ser Gly Leu Gly Ser Thr
                          40
Asp Ser Gly Gln Glu Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Ser Ala Gly Glu
                      55
Asp Glu Ala Asp Gly Asp Gly Ala Arg Ser Ser Glu Asp Gly Ala Ser
                  70
Ser Glu Leu Gly Lys Glu Glu Glu Glu Glu Glu Gln Ala Asp Gly Ala
                                  90
Val Trp Leu Cys Gly Asp Val Trp Arg Glu Thr Arg Ala Lys Leu Arg
                              105
Gly Ile Val Asp Ser Lys Tyr Phe Asn Arg Gly Ile Met Met Ala Ile
                         120
Leu Val Asn Thr Val Ser Met Gly Ile Glu His His Glu Gln
      <210> 133
      <211> 51
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
      <400> 133
Pro Glu Glu Leu Thr Asn Ile Leu Glu Ile Cys Asn Val Val Phe Thr
                5
                                  10
Ser Met Phe Ala Leu Glu Met Ile Leu Lys Leu Ala Ala Phe Gly Leu
          20
                               25
Phe Asp Tyr Leu Arg Asn Pro Tyr Asn Ile Phe Asp Ser Ile Ile Val
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Ile Ile Ser
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      <211> 62
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 134
Ile Trp Glu Ile Val Gly Gln Ala Asp Gly Gly Leu Ser Val Leu Arg
                5
                                   10
Thr Phe Arg Leu Leu Arg Val Leu Lys Leu Val Arg Phe Met Pro Ala
           20
                               25
Leu Arg Arg Gln Leu Val Val Leu Met Lys Thr Met Asp Asn Val Ala
                          40
Thr Phe Cys Met Leu Leu Met Leu Phe Ile Phe Ile Phe Ser
   50
                       55
      <210> 135
      <211> 39
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
      <400> 135
Ile Leu Gly Met His Ile Phe Gly Cys Lys Phe Ser Leu Arg Thr Asp
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10

Thr Gly Asp Thr Val Pro Asp Arg Lys Asn Phe Asp Ser Leu Leu Trp

25

20

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Ala Ile Val Thr Val Phe Gln
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     <210> 136
     <211> 52
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 136
Ile Leu Thr Gln Glu Asp Trp Asn Val Val Leu Tyr Asn Gly Met Ala
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Ser Thr Ser Pro Trp Ala Ser Leu Tyr Phe Val Ala Leu Met Thr Phe
       20
                  25
Gly Asn Tyr Val Leu Phe Asn Leu Leu Val Ala Ile Leu Val Glu Gly
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Phe Gln Ala Glu
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     <210> 137
     <211> 31
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 137
Gly Asp Ala Asn Arg Ser Tyr Ser Asp Glu Asp Gln Ser Ser Ser Asn
     5
                               10
Ile Glu Glu Phe Asp Lys Leu Gln Glu Gly Leu Asp Ser Ser Gly
                            25
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     <210> 138
     <211> 68
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 138
Asp Pro Lys Leu Cys Pro Ile Pro Met Thr Pro Asn Gly His Leu Asp
                              10
1 5
Pro Ser Leu Pro Leu Gly Gly His Leu Gly Pro Ala Gly Ala Ala Gly
     20
                           25
Pro Ala Pro Arg Leu Ser Leu Gln Pro Asp Pro Met Leu Val Ala Leu
                       40
  35
Gly Ser Arg Lys Ser Ser Val Met Ser Leu Gly Arg Met Ser Tyr Asp
                     55
Gln Arg Ser Leu
65
      <210> 139
      <211> 157
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
      <400> 139
 Ser Ser Ser Arg Ser Ser Tyr Tyr Gly Pro Trp Gly Arg Ser Ala Ala
                               10
 1 5
 Trp Ala Ser Arg Arg Ser Ser Trp Asn Ser Leu Lys His Lys Pro Pro
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25
Ser Ala Glu His Glu Ser Leu Leu Ser Ala Glu Arg Gly Gly Gly Ala
             40
Arg Val Cys Glu Val Ala Ala Asp Glu Gly Pro Pro Arg Ala Ala Pro
          55
Leu His Thr Pro His Ala His His Ile His His Gly Pro His Leu Ala
65 70
His Arg His Arg His His Arg Arg Thr Leu Ser Leu Asp Asn Arg Asp
     85
                    90
Ser Val Asp Leu Ala Glu Leu Val Pro Ala Val Gly Ala His Pro Arg
                 105
   100
Ala Ala Trp Arg Ala Ala Gly Pro Ala Pro Gly His Glu Asp Cys Asn
   115
             120
                               125
Gly Arg Met Pro Ser Ile Ala Lys Asp Val Phe Thr Lys Met Gly Asp
  130 135
                              140
Arg Gly Asp Arg Gly Glu Asp Glu Glu Glu Ile Asp Tyr
                150
     <210> 140
     <211> 34
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 140
Thr Leu Cys Phe Arg Val Arg Lys Met Ile Asp Val Tyr Lys Pro Asp
            5
1
                            10
Trp Cys Glu Val Arg Glu Asp Trp Ser Val Tyr Leu Phe Ser Pro Glu
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Asn Arg

<213> Homo sapiens

<210> 142

<211> 23 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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     <211> 62
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     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 143
Val Val Ser Leu Gly Leu Tyr Phe Gly Glu Gln Ala Tyr Leu Arg Ser
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Ser Trp Asn Val Leu Asp Gly Phe Leu Val Phe Val Ser Ile Ile Asp
     20 25
Ile Val Val Ser Leu Ala Ser Ala Gly Gly Ala Lys Ile Leu Gly Val
  35 40
Leu Arg Val Leu Arg Leu Leu Arg Thr Leu Arg Pro Leu Arg
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       55
     <210> 144
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     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 144
Val Ile Ser Arg Ala Pro Gly Leu Lys Leu Val Val Glu Thr Leu Ile
                              10
             5
Ser Ser Leu Lys Pro Ile Gly Asn Ile Val Leu Ile Cys Cys Ala Phe
       20
                          25
Phe Ile Ile Phe Gly Ile Leu Gly Val Gln
      35
     <210> 145
     <211> 42
     <212> PRT
     <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 145
Leu Phe Lys Gly Lys Phe Tyr His Cys Leu Gly Val Asp Thr Arg Asn
1 5
                      . 10
Ile Thr Asn Arg Ser Asp Cys Met Ala Ala Asn Tyr Arg Trp Val His
       20
                . 25
His Lys Tyr Asn Phe Asp Asn Leu Gly Gln
      35
     <210> 146
     <211> 30
     <212> PRT
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     <400> 146
Ala Leu Met Ser Leu Phe Val Leu Ala Ser Lys Asp Gly Trp Val Asn
                              10
Ile Met Tyr Asn Gly Leu Asp Ala Val Ala Val Asp Gln Gln
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     <210> 147
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<212> PRT

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 Pro Val Thr Asn His Asn Pro Trp Met Leu Leu Tyr Phe Ile Ser Phe 1

 1
 5
 10
 10
 15
 15

 Leu Leu Leu Ile Val Ser Phe Phe Phe Val Leu Asn Met Phe Val Gly Val Val 25
 30
 30

 Val Glu Asn Phe His Lys Cys Arg Gln His Gln Glu Ala Glu Glu Ala 35
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 45

 Arg Arg Arg Glu Glu Lys Arg Leu Arg Arg Leu Glu Lys Lys Arg Arg Arg

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Lys Asp Arg

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<210> 151 <211> 24

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Val Leu Lys Leu Leu Lys Met Ala Thr Gly Met Arg Ala Leu Leu Asp
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Thr Val Val Gln Ala Leu Pro Gln
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      <400> 152
Val Gly Asn Leu Gly Leu Leu Phe Met Leu Leu Phe Phe Ile Tyr Ala
Ala Leu Gly Val Glu Leu Phe Gly Lys Leu
          20
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Val Cys Asn Asp Glu Asn Pro Cys Glu Gly Met Ser Arg His Ala Thr
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Phe Glu Asn Phe Gly Met Ala Phe Leu Thr Leu Phe Gln Val Ser Thr
          20
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Gly Asp Asn Trp Asn Gly Ile Met Lys
      <210> 154
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      <400> 154
Asp Thr Leu Arg Asp Cys Thr His Asp Glu Arg Ser Cys Leu Ser Ser
                                  10
Leu Gln Phe Val Ser Pro Leu Tyr Phe Val Ser Phe Val Leu Thr Ala
                               25
Gin Phe Val Leu Ile Asn Val Val Val Ala Val Leu Met Lys His Leu
                           40
Asp Asp Ser Asn Lys Glu Ala Gln Glu Asp Ala Glu Met Asp Ala Glu
Leu Glu Leu Glu Met Ala His Gly Leu Gly Pro Gly Pro Arg Leu Pro
Thr Gly Ser Pro Gly Ala Pro Gly Arg Gly Pro Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly
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Gly Gly Asp Thr Glu Gly Gly Leu Cys Arg Arg Cys Tyr Ser Pro Ala 100 105 110

Gln

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<210> 155
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Glu Asn Leu Trp Leu Asp Ser Val Ser Leu Ile Ile Lys
                               10
     <210> 156
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Asp Ser Leu Glu Gly Glu Leu Thr Ile Ile Asp Asn Leu Ser Gly Ser
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                                     15
Ile Phe His His Tyr Ser Ser Pro Ala Gly Cys Lys Lys Cys His His
      20
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Asp Lys Gln Glu
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     <210> 157
     <211> 41
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Val Gln Leu Ala Glu Thr Glu Ala Phe Ser Leu Asn Ser Asp Arg Ser
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Ser Ser Ile Leu Leu Gly Asp Asp Leu Ser Leu Glu Asp Pro Thr Ala
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Cys Pro Pro Gly Arg Lys Asp Ser Lys
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Gly Glu Leu Asp Pro Pro Glu Pro Met Arg Val Gly Asp Leu Gly Glu
             5 10
Cys Phe Phe Pro Leu Ser Ser Thr Ala Val Ser Pro Asp Pro Glu Asn
    20 25
Phe Leu Cys Glu Met Glu Glu Ile Pro Phe Asn Pro Val Arg Ser Trp
   35 40
Leu Lys His Asp Ser Ser Gln
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     <210> 159
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Ala Pro Pro Ser Pro Phe Ser Pro Asp Ala Ser Ser Pro Leu Leu Pro
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1
Met Pro Ala Glu Phe Phe His Pro Ala Val Ser Ala Ser Gln Lys Gly
                              25
          20
Pro Glu Lys Gly Thr Gly Thr Gly Thr Leu Pro Lys Ile Ala Leu Gln
                         40
Gly Ser Trp Ala Ser Leu Arg Ser Pro Arg Val Asn Cys Thr Leu Leu
Arg Gln
65
     <210> 160
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Val Pro Thr Pro Pro Arg Pro
      <210> 161
      <211> 214
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
      <400> 161
Ala Thr Gly Ser Asp Thr Ser Leu Asp Ala Ser Pro Ser Ser Ser Ala
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                5
Gly Ser Leu Gln Thr Thr Leu Glu Asp Ser Leu Thr Leu Ser Asp Ser
                               25
Pro Arg Arg Ala Leu Gly Pro Pro Ala Pro Ala Pro Gly Pro Arg Ala
                          40
Gly Leu Ser Pro Ala Ala Arg Arg Leu Ser Leu Arg Gly Arg Gly
                                          60
                      55
Leu Phe Ser Leu Arg Gly Leu Arg Ala His Gln Arg Ser His Ser Ser
                   70
                                      75
Gly Gly Ser Thr Ser Pro Gly Cys Thr His His Asp Ser Met Asp Pro
              85
                                  90
Ser Asp Glu Glu Gly Arg Gly Gly Ala Gly Gly Gly Ala Gly Ser
                             105
Glu His Ser Glu Thr Leu Ser Ser Leu Ser Leu Thr Ser Leu Phe Cys
                          120
Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Ala Pro Gly Leu Thr Pro Ala Arg Lys Phe
                      135
                                          140
Ser Ser Thr Ser Ser Leu Ala Ala Pro Gly Arg Pro His Ala Ala Ala
                  150
                                     155
Leu Ala His Gly Leu Ala Arg Ser Pro Ser Trp Ala Ala Asp Arg Ser
              165
                                 170
Lys Asp Pro Pro Gly Arg Ala Pro Leu Pro Met Gly Leu Gly Pro Leu
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                                                  190
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Ala Pro Pro Pro Gln Pro Leu Pro Gly Glu Leu Glu Pro Gly Asp Ala
                           200
Ala Ser Lys Arg Lys Arg
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     <211> 18
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     <400> 162
Asp Leu Met Leu Asp Asp Val Ile Ala Ser Gly Ser Ser Ala Ser Ala
Ala Ser
     <210> 163
      <211> 51
      <212> PRT
      <213> Homo sapiens
     <400> 163
Lys Ala Gln Cys Lys Pro Tyr Tyr Ser Asp Tyr Ser Arg Phe Arg Leu
                               10
Leu Val His His Leu Cys Thr Ser His Tyr Leu Asp Leu Phe Ile Thr
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Gly Val Ile Gly Leu Asn Val Val Thr Met Ala Met Glu His Tyr Gln
                           40
Gln Pro Gln
   50
     <210> 164
     <211> 142
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     <213> Homo sapiens
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Gln Leu Cys Pro Gln His Ser Pro Leu Asp Ala Thr Pro His Thr Leu
                                  10
Val Gln Pro Ile Pro Ala Thr Leu Ala Ser Asp Pro Ala Ser Cys Pro
                               25
Cys Cys Gln His Glu Asp Gly Arg Pro Ser Gly Leu Gly Ser Thr
                           40
Asp Ser Gly Gln Glu Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Ser Ala Gly Gly Glu
                       55
Asp Glu Ala Asp Gly Asp Gly Ala Arg Ser Ser Glu Asp Gly Ala Ser
                   70
                                      75
Ser Glu Leu Gly Lys Glu Glu Glu Glu Glu Glu Gln Ala Asp Gly Ala
              85
                                  90
Val Trp Leu Cys Gly Asp Val Trp Arg Glu Thr Arg Ala Lys Leu Arg
                              105
```

Gly Ile Val Asp Ser Lys Tyr Phe Asn Arg Gly Ile Met Met Ala Ile
115
120
125
Leu Val Asn Thr Val Ser Met Gly Ile Glu His His Glu Gln

135

130

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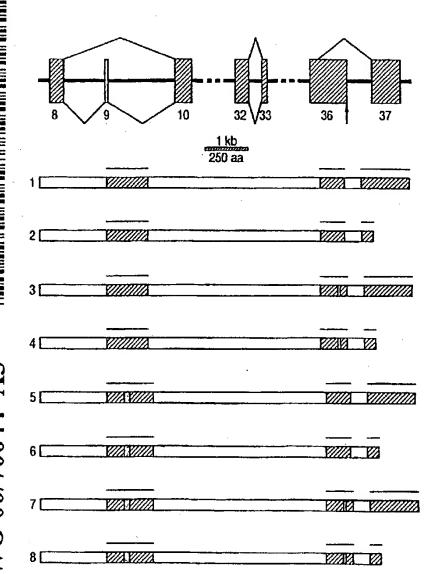
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: HUMAN BRAIN T CALCIUM CHANNEL ALPHA-SUBUNIT SPLICE VARIANTS



(57) Abstract: The structures of CACNAIG and CACNAII, the genes encoding the human brain T Ca^{2+} channel α_{1G} and α_{1I} subunits, respectively, were determined by comparison of polymerase chain reaction-amplified brain cDNA and genomic sequences. CACNAIG consists of at least 38 exons spanning at least 66,490 basepairs of chromosome 17q22. Alternative splicing of the RNA occurs at six sites: cassette exons 14, 26, 34 and 35, an internal donor in exon 25 and protein-coding intron 38B. Additionally, the RNA can be polyadenylated Alternative splicing of at either of two sites, CANCAIG RNA may lead to expression of as many as 64 distinct protein products, ranging from 2,171 to 2,377 amino-acids residues, with as many as 45 potential phosphorylation sites. CACNAII consists of at least 37 exons spanning at least 116,390 basepairs of chromosome 22q12.3-13.2. Alternative splicing of the gene occurs at three sites: cassette exon 9, an alternative acceptor in exon 33 and mutually-exclusive 3' exons 36B and 37. Alternative splicing of CANCAII RNA may lead to expression of as many as 8 distinct protein products, ranging from 1,968 to 2,223 amino-acids residues, with as many as 28 potential phosphorylation sites. Molecular diversity generated by alternative splicing and post-translation modification of these and other members of the T α_1 subunit gene family may account for the observed heterogeneity of T currents in central neurons.

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(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH; CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 17 May 2001

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Intel Inal Application No PCT/US 00/12383

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12N15/12 C071 CO7K14/705 G01N33/68 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C12N C07K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) BIOSIS, EPO-Internal, EMBL, WPI Data, MEDLINE, EMBASE, SCISEARCH, BIOTECHNOLOGY C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Χ PEREZ-REYES EDWARD ET AL: "Molecular 1-5,11,12,15, characterization of a neuronal low-voltage-activated T-type calcium 16,19,20 channel." NATURE (LONDON), vol. 391, no. 6670, 26 February 1998 (1998-02-26), pages 896-900, XP002147614 ISSN: 0028-0836 abstract; figure 1 page 896, right-hand column, paragraph 3 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Gurdjian, D

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Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)				
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:					
1.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:				
2.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:				
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).				
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)				
This Inte	mational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:				
	see additional sheet				
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.				
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.				
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:				
4. X	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:				
X	1-5, 11, 12, 15,16,19, 20				
Remark	on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.				
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.				

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	C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category Citation of document, with indication where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No.				
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
Χ .	CRIBBS LEANNE L ET AL: "Cloning and characterization of alphalH from human heart, a member of the T-type Ca2+ channel gene family." CIRCULATION RESEARCH, vol. 83, no. 1, 13 July 1998 (1998-07-13), pages 103-109, XP000938541 ISSN: 0009-7330 abstract; figure 1	1-5,11, 12,15, 16,19,20			
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X	abstract -& DATABASE TREMBL [Online] Acession number 094770, 1 May 1999 (1999-05-01) KISHI F.: "Human NBR13" XP002147616 abstract	4,5			
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
A	LEE JUNG-HA ET AL: "Cloning and expression of a novel member of the low voltage-activated T-type calcium channel	1-5,11, 12		
	family." JOURNAL OF NEUROSCIENCE, vol. 19, no. 6, 15 March 1999 (1999-03-15), pages 1912-1921, XP000946046			
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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